ANTONIA

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Antonia by Jessie Van Zile Belden & Amy M. Sacker

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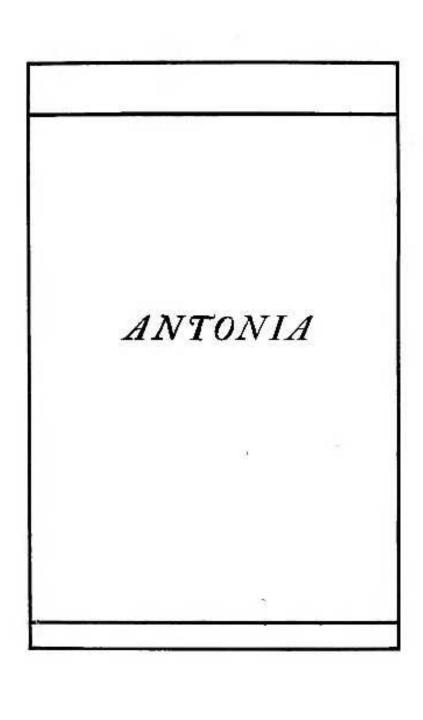
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JESSIE VAN ZILE BELDEN & AMY M. SACKER

ANTONIA







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By JESSIE VAN ZILE BELDEN

Illustrated by AMY M. SACKER

"Dutch tulips from their beds Flaunted their stately heads"



BOSTON

1901

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To Holland

Silent — Sturdy — Indomitable — Who wrested a Nation from the Sea —

THE seeds of perseverance planted by thy people have blossomed and borne fruit.

To-day a great city looks over the waters which bore the ships of the Dutch West India Company to the coast of the New World.



Publisher's Note

THE idea that the early colonial settler in New Amsterdam was a stoutbodied soul, with a peaceful life and a prosperous bouwerie, is as picturesquely delightful as it is fallacious. The struggle for very existence of the Dutch colonists at the mouth of the Hudson River, along its banks, and at Rensselaerswyck (now the city of Albany) was as severe and as strenuous as among the Puritans of New England.

Perhaps there was no more critical period of New World growth than that in which the scenes of the following story assert themselves. Wilhelm Kieft, the governor of this frontier settlement on Manhattan Island, although a man of considerable energy of character, was irritable, capricious,