

PREFATORY.

According to the custom of authors my story should be introduced to the public in some befitting manner. How best to make you acquainted with it, so as to save time and words, I know not, unless I divide you into two classes, viz: Plain, honest folks, and hypocrites. The first class have so often formed the acquaintance of the last that the experiences of Uncle Ben will no doubt call to your minds so many incidents of your past life, sad and joyous, pathetic and laughable, sublime and ridiculous, that you will be interested from first to last, and when you have finished the story, you will say, "I am glad I met Uncle Ben Morgan. I have gone over my past, and have brighter glimpses of the future; I have drawn lessons of value from every chapter." The last class will discover their photographs hanging on the walls, houses, barns, fences, telegraph poles, Rocky Mountains' sides, in the hotels, steamboats, cars, private offices, and in the churches, and they can also trace their course through life backward, whether with pleasure or remorse Uncle Ben leaves them to decide. With the hope that the reader will not only be amused, but profited by the time spent in "Uncle Ben's Experience with the Hypocrites,"

I am yours truly,

BENJAMIN MORGAN.

P. S.—Since writing this book I have sat up nights and Mondays, reading Webster's Dictionary through, to correct the bad spelling. I couldn't find a grammar big enough to do me any good, so I have used everybody's everyday grammar.