

THE
AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF ROBERT MANN

CHAPTER I.

LIFE IN BELLEFONTE AND BALD EAGLE VALLEY,
CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

YOUR great-grandfather Mann was a blacksmith, your great-grandfather Gillette was a farmer. I am sorry to say that I have not been able to find any illustrious personage, either on the paternal or the maternal side, from whom you can claim descent.

My father, soon after his marriage in 1801, in Montgomery County, New York, started a factory, in which he made scythes and some axes. He failed in this enterprise during the hard times caused by the war of 1812. He never rose to any consequence in business afterwards, but always, until too old, had a shop in which he made hoes, forks, rakes, traps, etc. He was a good workman, and noted for doing well what he did do. I