

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF ROBERT MANN.

safe investment by which the family would be provided for independently of the risks and perplexities of business and the uncertainty of life. The sale to James H. Mann was therefore made.

I was to receive twenty-four thousand dollars for all my real estate that had not cost me more than ten thousand dollars. This looked, on the face of it, like a very profitable sale, and particularly so to me in view of the fact that I was always disposed to look on the gloomy side of the future, and was never sanguine in my expectations. This sale left me a net estate of about thirty-seven thousand dollars. That was estimated in the neighborhood to be a handsome fortune, but as land had reached a high value just after the war, the amount of my capital did not seem to be so very immense invested in real estate, and the result of a trip which I made in company with Mr. John S. Furst and my daughter Frances through the valleys as far as Lewistown gradually weakened my enthusiasm in regard to investing in farm land, and as that enthusiasm abated, an appreciation of my old business perceptibly grew upon me. When I came home my brother Harvey Mann was there on a visit with a protest on the impropriety of the sale. My wife,