

# Foreword

The publication of this book, written by John Kimball DeLaski, has been a long time in coming, about 140 years too long! The story is one well known today, but in mid-19th century it was very much ahead of its time. A master of reading the incredible geologic record indelibly imprinted upon the landscape of Maine, he was among the first to recognize the scale of the immense continental ice sheet that covered North America at the height of the last ice age. Over his lifetime, Dr. DeLaski made careful observations of surface features across Maine coming to the inescapable conclusion that only the action of glaciers could have created this landscape. At the time of his investigations the prevailing belief was that the biblical deluge and icebergs were the primary agencies responsible for sculpting the land. In this volume we present the synthesis of DeLaski's scientific work as of 1869 with a transcription of the handwritten manuscript that he presented to the Portland Society of Natural History of which he was a member.

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Foot Steps of the Ancient Great Glacier of North  
America

A Long Lost Document of a Revolution in 19th Century  
Geological Theory

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