

PREFACE.

IN offering to public attention the first volume of this work, I have to crave indulgence for many imperfections that I am sensible cannot fail to occur in such an attempt. The great amount of materials for history which the provincial assembly have collected and preserved by means of the Record Commission, were powerfully tempting to me, and my prepossessions as a Novascotian making strong impressions on my mind of the value of my country and the interest of its early history, I commenced, in 1860, the collection and arrangement of this narrative. In its progress I have received the most friendly aid and encouragement in every direction; and having given my whole heart to the work ever since, I have every confidence that it will prove useful as a record of the varying events that have at length made Nova Scotia a happy, free and intelligent province, progressive and prosperous, which may she ever be.—I am bound to express my thanks for substantial aid to the provincial government and assembly, and individually to those who have furnished information, facilitated my researches, and otherwise assisted my enterprise, among whom I must name Thomas B. Akins, esquire, the Commissioner of Records, The Hon. Joseph Howe, The Hon. Dr. Charles Tupper, The Hon. W. A. Henry, The Hon. J. McCully; Henry C. D. Twining, esquire, clerk of Assembly; Hon. messrs. Ritchie, Shannon and McDonald; Mr. Speaker Wade; Hiram Blanchard, esq.; Rev. Mr. Rand, missionary