

PREFACE.

As the motives which have led to the publication of the following pages can possess no possible interest to the public, to parade them needlessly before its gaze would be little short of impertinence.

The portraiture of Canadian life which is here humbly attempted, has been thrown into the form of a narrative, because a book written in that style appeared to the author not only less irksome to write, and more easy to-read, but also because he thought, that to trace the fortunes of an imaginary individual would afford an opportunity of describing more correctly the numerous minute details of a settler's experience than a work of higher pretensions and more important character.

With reference to the fidelity of the picture which is here presented, the author can truly affirm, that there is scarcely an incident or conversation occurring in the volume but had its counterpart in reality. Those incidents, however, have been so altered, as regards