

## PREFACE.

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**M**ANY a traveller from Britain has visited the western continent, and given us elegant and elaborate descriptions of the scenery of nature, the manners and customs of the people, &c. &c. But the moral scenery exhibited there, seems to have been but little noticed by any of them, and therefore faintly described. Perhaps, however, none of them trode in the same path which I had marked out for myself, and therefore had not a similar narrative to detail.

I embarked for Prince Edward Island at the foot of the river Nith, Dumfries-shire, on the 19th of April, 1820, with the following objects in view, should it please Providence to enable me to carry them into execution: In the first place, to dispose of some articles, so as to raise some support for my family at home: In the second place, to erect Sabbath schools wherever it was practicable: In the third place, to investigate the country so as to give a faithful picture of it to my countrymen who might think of emigrating; and, in the last place, to form an opinion whether it would be prudent to transport my own family there, should I be able to procure the