

P R E F A C E .

IN presenting the following pages to the public, the Author may be allowed to offer a brief explanation of the reasons which led to their composition and publication. When, in the spring of 1840, he was engaged to accompany Captain Penny in the *Bon Accord*, in his professional capacity, it was suggested to him, in anticipation of the discovery of what has been denominated Hogarth's Sound, to prepare an account of the voyage, combined with some notices of the interesting Esquimaux whose information had first directed attention to that inlet as an eligible spot for the prosecution of the whale-fishery. Anticipating success in the discovery of a new field of enterprise, and judging that, besides the local interest attaching to the residence of Eenoooloopik in Aberdeen, there were circumstances connected with his visit to this country which rendered it of general, and even of national importance, the Author agreed to draw up,