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TO THE READER.

On leaving Ireland, my native land, being solicited by a few religious friends to send back a short account of my life, and the kind and tender dealings of a merciful God to me, I concluded that in doing so, the whole, as I respects myself, would compose nothing but the scene of unfaithfulness, ingratitude, and the most base returns of love to the best of Beings, by whose tender and loving care I have been brought through so many repeated trials in life; and knowing that many families had it in contemplation at this time to remove to America, I chose rather to send an account of my voyage to Quebec, with some useful directions to my countrymen respecting the necessary preparations for such a serious undertaking.

Wishing the whole may prove a blessing to my friends, I remain, their most humble and very obedient servant in the gospel of Christ,

JAMES WILSON.

*Quebec, July 9th, 1817.*