



PREFACE.



A REMARK or two on the general plan and scope of my work may not be out of place here. I have endeavoured to present, in a thoroughly impartial way, the various political and social events which have from time to time arisen during the brilliant administration of the Earl of Dufferin in Canada. Political topics, I am aware, require quite delicate handling, and if I have succeeded in keeping out of *very* hot water, I shall not be unsatisfied with my labours. Lord Dufferin has very kindly and courteously revised his speeches for me, but beyond this he has had no connection whatever with the composition of my book, nor has he in the slightest way inspired a single line of its contents. I, alone, am responsible for the opinions it contains.

In order to afford a convenient vehicle for the beautiful and eloquent specimens of Lord Dufferin's oratory, which this book contains, I have described the different journeys he has taken throughout the Dominion, and presented certain aspects of the country as they appeared at the time, and which called forth many of the utterances of His Excellency. In doing this, I have sought to exhibit the natural