

AUTHOR'S NOTE.

A SUGGESTION was made some years ago that I should publish a new edition of the book entitled "The Life of Colonel Talbot," written and published by my father in 1859, and now long since out of print. Facts and documents since come to light, the different aspect in which many occurrences and characters are regarded after the lapse of almost half a century, with other reasons, combined to render such a course, in my view, both impossible and inadvisable. I have nevertheless quoted from, and made free use of much of the material in, my father's book, including a good part of what is contained in my chapter of Anecdotes. I aimed rather at a history of the Settlement than a biography of the man alone, and at first contemplated covering the events of the entire century from 1803 to 1903 in one volume. Before I had completed one-half of my task I saw that to accomplish this satisfactorily would be impracticable. Having devoted this volume to the first half century of the Settlement, I have still had to cultivate the art of condensation to an extent which may not be apparent to most readers. In consequence the names of many worthy settlers—worthier probably than many whose names appear—will be missed from these pages. This would, however, be, in any case, inevitable, especially as to those whose quiet, unostentatious though industrious and useful lives have not brought them into prominence. A valued correspondent expressed the hope that *fac similes* of the original township maps, with Colonel Talbot's entries upon them, might be included in this volume. I find this impracticable, but hope they may yet appear in the Domesday Book announced to be in course of compilation by the Provincial Archivist—or in other permanent form.