PREFACE.

vi

from the accurate sketches it contains of American scenery under very various aspects.

And it has other merits : it embodies a large number of details in reference to the habits and characteristics of the animals with which our hunter and trapper was brought into contact; so that it may prove useful, either as an introduction to the study of Natural History, or as a companion and supplement to formal scientific treatises. We are not without hope that many young readers who would turn away from the latter with "cold indifference" will peruse the story of M. Révoil's adventures with breathless interest, and thereby be led to acquire a taste for a very agreeable and instructive pursuit, the investigation of the Curiosities of Animal Life.

We have only to add that we have allowed our hunter to tell his tale in his own way. We have made no alterations except such as were necessary to adapt the book for English readers, and have endeavoured to render the original with spirit and fidelity.

W. H. D. A.

