

## PREFACE.

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THE exploration or adventure, which I have included in this volume of my travels, will at least serve the purpose of comparing the different countries described from a sporting point of view, from the fact of their having been the experience of a single individual, within the short period of a decade, and partly in the intervals of a military service which included a campaign. If from a literary point of view the chapters appear to be of varying, and I hope increasing merit, that fact must be ascribed to the different epochs at which they were written. Some have been condensed from my contributions to certain periodicals with the kind permission of the Editors, such as those of *Land and Water*, *The Alpine Journal*, and *The Field*. I can at least claim for them the advantage of strict fidelity to fact, and of having been mostly penned upon the spot.