## AUTHOR'S PREFACE

It has been truly said, that the story of any human being, has its lessons either of encouragement or of warning. I make no apology therefore for preparing the sketches that follow,—more especially as many of them refer to persons and events of much more importance than what pertains to myself individually.

They will, in any case, I trust, be of some use to my children and grand-children, and perhaps to others who may have been influenced by my teaching. To me, they are rather a record of failure, or of very partial success, and I may truly say that the failures are my own, the successes due to the guidance of my Heavenly Father, and to His over-ruling Providence.