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## PREFACE.

The Falls of Niagara is one of the most wonderful works of nature, and since its first discovery by Father Hennipin in 1768, rich and poor, high and low, kings and plebians, have done homage to this wonder of wonders. Countries civilized and uncivilized, christian and heathen lands, all have furnished their quota of tourists to this center of attraction. Consequently many stirring events have taken place in this vicinity, which prove the old adage that "Truth is stranger than fiction." The writer who has lived within the roar of the Mighty Cataract for more than half a century and who is well acquainted with some of the incidents here narrated, has endeavored to faithfully record the same in this work, thereby supplying a want long felt by the travelling public.