

TO THE READER.

lians are, in part descendants of the ancient Romans. Such will be the fate of the aborigines of our country. They will perish, or lose their national character and existence, by admixtures with their conquerors. To posterity therefore our history will be highly acceptable. Indeed it may be said of all history, that like good wine it grows better by age.

In the execution of this work, I have aimed at truth, and nothing but truth. Impartiality, imposes no restraint on my pen; for independently of the circumstance, that the contents of this history, in general, interfere with no party; I am encumbered with but few individual obligations, or gratitude. To political party, religious and other communities, I owe no obligations of any kind; for any benefits conferred on me, so that I have felt fully at liberty, to speak the truth concerning all classes of our people, and I trust I have done so.

If any material facts, in the historical parts of this work have been omitted, the omission happened from want of information. Incorrect statements, if there be any, have taken place, in consequence of improper information. In either case, I am not blameable, as I have done my best my circumstances allowed, in collecting materials for the work.

I should my humble attempts, at writing the history of my country, meet with good acceptance among my fellow citizens. I shall continue to collect, from all quarters, the materials for the work herein recommended, as a desideratum in the literature of our country.

For aids in this work, I earnestly invite communications from all these gentlemen who, ~~gent~~