

P R E F A C E.

PUBLIC opinion in these days requires of an author some apology for his intrusion upon the preoccupied field of literature. How much more, then, of one who puts into print what was written with no such object. The following Letters contain no more than a narrative of a tour through Canada and the Northern States of America in the autumn of 1864. Whatever merit they may have consists in their presenting to the reader a traveller's first impressions of the country and people of which they speak, recorded from day to day, without afterthought or reconsideration. By the desire of some who saw them in manuscript they were printed for private circulation amongst those for whom they were originally intended, and their favorable reception in that limited circle has induced the writer to think that others also may find in them something to interest and amuse.

G. T. B.

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