

Introductory.

SAMUEL WILLIAMS, the author of this narrative, was, for many years, a resident of Cincinnati, and more than fifty a resident of the State of Ohio. Thirty years of this time he was connected with the surveys of public lands north-west of the Ohio, as chief clerk of the Surveyor General's office. In this capacity he rendered important service, having had the principal oversight of the official business, and the direction of the work in the field.

He was born in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in the year 1786, and was brought up among the mountains in an adjoining county. In the year 1800, at the age of fourteen, he joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, and three years subsequently removed with his father's family to Charleston, on the Kanawha river, in Western Virginia. He and his mother were the first Methodists who settled in that valley, and aided in the formation of the first Methodist class on that river. In 1807, he removed to Chillicothe, in this state, and twenty years afterward to Cincinnati, where he resided until his death in 1859.