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PREFACE.

ALTHOUGH I am free to confess that my object, in appending a Statistical account of Upper Canada, to my notes of the West Indies and United States, is to induce that portion of the British population, whose prospects at home are gloomy and indifferent, to examine into the actual resources of a Province, that would prove a blessing to emigrants, and be improved by emigration; yet I have most carefully endeavored to give only such statements as I can fully and entirely substantiate. The inhabitants of Great Britain have been too apt to consider Canada as merely a region of ice and snow, of pine forests and lakes, of trappers and Indians, with a few forts and villages intermixt, and producing only moccasins, furs and ship timber.

But this is a very imperfect view of that interesting country, which is growing in population and improving in cultivation, more rapidly perhaps than any part of the United States, if we except the territory of Michigan, and which must become, at no very distant period, a wealthy, powerful, and populous Province, especially since the efforts of a few worthless incendiaries striving to kindle civil war, have proved unsuccessful, by the almost unanimous decision of its inhabitants, conveyed in numberless addresses to the present enlightened Lieutenant Governor, expressive of their determination to prevent the dismemberment of the empire, and by the return of a large majority of Constitutional members to represent their feelings in the House of Assembly. The government of Great Britain, and the soundness of the great bulk of the people, will prevent such a calamity from ever taking place.

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