



PREFACE.

THE following narrative comprises an account of a journey made to the Western Province of the Dominion, through a comparatively little known portion of the "Nor'-West" territory, and of a voyage along the whole Pacific coast of Canada.

The writer organized and conducted the over-land expedition of Mr. Sandford Fleming, from Fort Garry to Edmonton, during the summer of 1872; and it was at the instance of that gentleman, who desired to exhaust the whole field of enquiry, before deciding upon a route for the Canada Pacific road, that the journey about to be described, was undertaken.

The Pine River Summit Lake Pass, referred to in this sketch, would also have been explored by me had time and circumstances permitted: but the period allotted for the journey, which included a visit to the river Skeena, compelled me to abandon the investigation of that locality. To the officers of the Hudson's Bay Company, without exception, the best thanks are due for the hearty welcome and aid extended to Mr. Macoun (my colleague), and myself,