

# EXPLANATION

OF

## THE MAP,

&c.

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**THE** Sketch Map, which fronts the Title of this Volume, was designed to have accompanied a little Work on Emigration, and a larger one, narrating my personal History, Travels in Canada, the United States, &c.; both of which should have appeared long before now, but for the melancholy and disastrous circumstances by which I have been surrounded and held down. Upon a future occasion, I shall refer to this Map. A few words will suffice to give it sufficient consequence where it is now placed.

The climate of America undergoes a great change, as we proceed from the sea, inland. The air becomes much more dry, and though the cold of winter, by the thermometer, increases, it is less disagreeable to the feelings; while the seasons throughout are improved. At Quebec the mercury falls to 30° below Zero, in winter. At Lord Selkirk's settlement, on the Red River, only a little further north, but far to the west, it falls to 50°. And Mr. Birkbeck has written to me from Illinois, that he "shrinks a little at the extremes of the climate, though the mercury has not yet fallen to Zero." The climate of Lord Selkirk's settlement is much superior to that of