

## P R E F A C E .

IN presenting to the public the Journal of a Tour beyond the Rocky Mountains, the only apology necessary to make is, the hope of promoting a more extensive and particular knowledge than has heretofore been furnished, of the condition of that important section of our country. The author's mode of traveling furnished many opportunities for observation, being conducted with leisure, and through one of the most interesting portions of the wide territories of the west. It is believed that no defects exist in the work, irreconcilable with a strict adherence to facts. The principal merit which is claimed for this volume is, a scrupulous adherence to truth. Most of what is narrated in this work came under the author's personal observation, and whatever is stated which did not, was collected from gentlemen connected with the Hudson Bay Company, whose reputation for honesty and candor, as well as capability of judging intelligently, is well established. This source of information was available by comparing and collecting the statements of different individuals, retaining what corresponded with his own observation, or was well supported by evidence. The belief is cherished, that the following work contains a greater amount of statistical information in regard to the