

HUDSON'S BAY.

CHAPTER I.

APPOINTMENT TO THE SERVICE OF THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

READER,—I take it for granted that you are tolerably well acquainted with the different modes of life and travelling peculiar to European nations. I also presume that you know something of the inhabitants of the East; and, it may be, a good deal of the Americans in general. But I suspect, at least I would fain hope, that you have only a vague and indefinite knowledge of life in those wild, uncivilised regions in the northern continent of America, around the shores of Hudson's Bay. I would fain hope this, I say, that I may have the satisfaction of giving you information on the subject, and of showing you that there is a body of civilised men who move, and breathe, (pretty cool air, by the way!) and spend their lives in a quarter of the globe as totally different, in most respects, from the part you inhabit, as a beaver, roam-