PREFACE.

WHILE the main features of this YEAR BOOK continue from year to year the same, it is sought to give prominence, in each issue, to some *special* features. Last year a special and prominent feature of our record of Presbyterianism was a *general survey* of the whole Presbyterian field *throughout the world.* In such an effort as this, no prominence could be given to any particular Church in that enumeration. This year we confine our record to the American continent, so as to be able to give our readers, as our special point, a close view of the chief doings of the large and influential Assemblies of the United States, in whose Act, Proceedings, Work, and Statistics there is much for our encouragement and instruction.

JAMES CAMERON.

CHATSWORTH, *Dec. 21st, 1878.*