

PREFACE.

THE following pages contain simple facts experienced in the writer's history, who, called to a governess' life, narrates them not in the spirit of a *cynic*, but with the earnest desire to impress those who employ governesses with the solemn fact that it is in the power of the engager to render so *onerous* a life either profoundly unhappy,—and every day's experience goes to prove such is the actual fact,—or as happy as the circumstances of the