

of fifteen years, may not be without attraction for the general reader.

The writer of these records, which were not intended for publication, is no more. The reader, it is hoped, will be indulgent to the uncorrected style of one whose career had been, from boyhood, one of physical toil and active enterprise. Endowed with unusual powers of endurance, possessed of ardour and energy in executing any purpose he had chosen, a close and unwearied observer of nature, and voluntarily trained in boyhood to active labour and privation, he was a born adventurer and explorer; and had life been longer and more propitious to him, he might, perhaps, have taken his place amongst the successful pioneers of civilization in the waste. This was not to be; his few added years of life were doomed to pass in struggles of a different kind, and all he has left are such slight and hasty sketches of what he had seen, and partly achieved, as these which we now present to the public.