

PREFACE.

THE Author of the following sheets has spent the last forty-four years of his life, without a single day's intermission, in the Indian territories of North America; the first fifteen years in the regions of Columbia, that farthest of the "far west;" the remaining years in the Red River Settlement, a spot more effectually cut off from the rest of the world than any other colony of the empire. Under these circumstances, if he has earned the doubtful advantage of enacting a tale of his own, he has enjoyed but scanty opportunities of adorning it.

In 1849, the Author published a narrative of his adventures, ending with the overthrow of the Pacific Fur Company;* and the favourable reception of hi

* "Adventures of the First Settlers on the Oregon or Columbia River," by Alexander Ross.