

PREFACE.

IN presenting this edition of STRANGE TALES to a Canadian public, it is not needful that anything should be said concerning the Author, the extensive sale of whose works has made his name a "household word" in thousands of homes in our Dominion.

It has been thought that a smaller volume of JOHN ASHWORTH'S "TALES" would better meet the wants of Sabbath-schools, as well as find its way into the hands of many who could not afford the more expensive editions of his works; and, to accomplish this, the present volume is issued.

It is perhaps only necessary to add that none of the "TALES" in this edition are included in the larger volume of *Strange Tales from Humble Life*, by the same Author.

With prayers for the blessing of the Great Head of the Church upon these simple records, we commit them to the press.

TORONTO, 1873.