

EXTRACTS.

FROM THE

PREFATORY NOTE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

To have at least a general acquaintance with the geography and history of the country in which we reside, is essential to our intelligent appreciation of its physical resources and civil institutions. This is not only true in regard to those who are native born in the provinces, but it is especially the case with the newer residents in it,—many of whom have come hither long after the period of their school education had closed, when they had, doubtless, neither the inclination nor the opportunity of learning much of interest in regard to the history or condition of British America.

As colonists, we are politically in a transition state, . . . and our status has yet to be determined. From the simple condition of Crown Colonies, we have gradually assumed responsibilities in government, trade, and commerce, which indicate a position of more stability. In seeking still further to concentrate our power and strength, and give a greater permanence to our institutions and form of government, how important to us are not only the teachings of history, but especially an acquaintance with the history of our own past condition, and with the various stages of colonial existence through which we and the other British American colonies have passed.

To furnish this information, at Mr. Lovell's request, in a connected and summary form, has been the object of the author in preparing this School History.

To say that the preparation of this and the author's preceding books has been an agreeable duty, is but to express the general feeling of those who have had the pleasure and