

PREFACE TO THE CANADIAN EDITION.

READER—male or female—father, mother, husband, wife, brother, or sister. Ponder the situation. A young and tender woman following the fortunes of her loving and beloved husband into the great desert, the Land of Promise, far in the distance, dreams of wealth and future happiness. The man of God, who is one of the party, now sharing in the labors of the journey, now preaching a sermon, offering prayers for the well-being of all, or “singing the Lord’s song in a strange land.” The playful gambols of the children, the high-wrought hopes animating all; all rudely interrupted by the rifles of the merciless savages, most of the men cruelly murdered—the two ladies, and the female child spared, doubtless, for a fate worse than death—the heroic authoress choosing to abandon the tender and adored child in the desolate waste, a prey to wolves, jackals, and reptiles, rather than rear her for her inevitable fate. Think of the trials, the privations, the awful uncertainty, the harrowing fears, the mourning after her lost child, the torturing uncertainty as to