

sentences, and such-like trivial amendments, I have sometimes, though sparingly, admitted, and in certain rare cases I have added a few words to explain or elucidate my meaning ; but with these limitations the passages referred to may be relied on as actual extracts from the journal, even in portions that might be fancied too full or elaborate to have formed part of the real diary of a traveller in the wilds.

I do not, of course, attach value to the mere diction of my journal, as possessing any merit or importance in itself, but only as affording a guarantee of perfect accuracy so far as the writer could compass it. So careful have I been to preserve an exact truthfulness—which to my mind seems more important in a book of travels than picturesque word-painting or luxuriant adornments of style—that wherever I have offered anything beyond the most slight or obviously recent addition to the material existent in the journal, *I have bracketed off such passages*, however certain of their accuracy, lest some trick of memory should be leading me into confusion or mistake.

In the Appendix, besides a few miscellaneous papers at the end, I have collected various passages from my diary, which have but slight relation to the main story, while from their length, character, or position, they tended to impede its progress. Being chiefly memoranda on Shakespearian and theological subjects,—with recent additions, expanded in the case of *Hamlet* almost into an essay,—they are little calculated, I fear, to interest the majority of readers ; some, nevertheless, may consider them worth perusal ; and for different reasons I was desirous to preserve those portions of my work, though