

PREFACE.

OF the various Missions hitherto established by the Church of the United (or Moravian) Brethren, that among the Indians in North America is unquestionably one of the most remarkable, whether we consider the vicissitudes it has experienced, and the persecutions it has suffered, or the character of the nations which are its object. A history of that Mission to the year 1787 was published in German by Bishop Loskiel, and translated into English by the late Rev. C. I. La Trobe. It is the basis of the present volume. Valuable information has also been derived from Heckewelder's "Narrative," and from Holmes's "Historical Sketches," &c.; but the "Periodical Accounts of the Missions," published in London, and the American "Missionary Intelligencer," have chiefly supplied the materials for the continuation of the history to the present time.

The preliminary account of the Indian Tribes is principally the result of the observations of the Missionaries employed among them; but various works relative to the aborigines of North America have been examined and compared with it.

The design of the compiler has been to render the History of the Mission among the Indians more accessible, and to excite a still greater interest in favour of the work which is carried on by the United Brethren in Heathen lands—if this object be attained his labour will have received a sufficient reward.

Dec. 21, 1837.