

PREFACE.

THE following elementary outline of chronological science is printed for the purpose of furnishing the Editor's pupils with a convenient help to their historical studies. But, although intended mainly to supply a felt want in her own seminary, the Editor will be gratified if it shall also be found acceptable beyond the limits for which it is more immediately destined. A similar want may have been felt by others, engaged, like herself, in the labours of tuition; and the present attempt to supply it may possibly receive from them a friendly welcome. Nor, perhaps, may it prove altogether unacceptable to that interesting portion of the youthful community who have formed the laudable purpose of preserving and extending at home the knowledge of which at school they have laid the foundations and acquired the love.

In the early, and essentially conjectural, dates with which the Tables commence, it is only round numbers that have been employed. Any departure from these at that period of the world's history would both be an unnecessary tax upon the pupil's memory, and have a positive tendency to mislead, by indicating a degree of exactness in our knowledge which has no existence in fact. But after we come down to a period at which something like accuracy is really attainable, pains have been taken to secure it; and it is believed that no very glaring errors will