

## EDITOR'S PREFACE.

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**A**LLEXANDER HENRY THE YOUNGER, whose Journal of 1799-1814 forms the main body of the present work, is a person of whom hardly anything has been known hitherto, and one who therefore requires formal introduction to the readers he may reasonably hope to win on this, his first appearance in public, as an autobiographer.

The author of Henry's Journal must not be confounded with that other Alexander Henry—the Elder, as the latter may be called, now that there are two writers of the identical name—whose well-known *Travels and Adventures in Canada and the Indian Territories between the Years 1760 and 1776* was published at New York by I. Riley in 1809, and who died at Montreal April 14th, 1824: see *Canadian Magazine and Literary Repository*, Vol. II., Nos. 10 and 11, April and May, 1824, for biographical data. The two men were related as nephew and uncle, and led similar lives in like scenes under identical occupations; but their respective narrations have no connection with each other. Like his elder relative, the younger Henry was a fur trader among the American Indians; and during the period over which his Journal extends he was one of the famous "Northmen," as they used to be called—that is, one of the partners in the celebrated old Northwest Company of commercial adventurers, whose restless activities and indomitable energies covered a continent with the most formidable rivals the Hudson Bay Company ever encountered. The annals of American adventure may be searched in vain for more picturesque pages than those inscribed with the daring