PREFACE.

[BY THE EDITOR.]

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THE history of Mas. Rowlandson's captivity and release may be considered as highly valuable, in many points of view. It is, in itself, an interesting history, and is well calculated to engage the attention of children and youth. And to give them a just view of the ferocity and general habits of the aboriginals, as well as of the many sufferings endured by our ancestors, when settling the ground which we now accupy. And it cannot but lead all serious persons, who peruse it, to reflect on the wonderful goodness of God, to us, who come after them.

One of the present generation, who was bern in the county of Worcester, can scarcely believe that all its inhabitants were so lately in fear of their lives, from the native savages. But Mrs. Rowlandson's history will teach them that this was indeed the fact.

It is particularly recommended to every family in those towns through which Mrs. Rowlandson passed; and it is hoped that it may lead them to give praise to him, who has now given us such quietness in our dwellings, and freed us from the calamities which our fathers endured, for the good of their posterity.