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In placing this humble offering upon the altar of his country, the author ventures to indulge the cheering hope that the enlightened and generous public of Nova Scotia, will not criticise with too much severity, its numerous defects, but rather look with a favourable eye upon any merits which it may possess. It is with a view, mainly, to the benefit of the young, in whom the author is deeply interested, and for whose welfare he is earnestly solicitous, that he has, in the face of many difficulties and trials, produced this unpretending volume. Success has, at length, crowned his efforts, and "The Land of the Mayflower" is now fairly launched upon the tide of public opinion. If it meet with the warm and welcome reception which the author ventures to hope for it, he will, at no very distant day, again make his appearance before an indulgent public, with a volume of higher pretensions, and one which he trusts, will be more worthy the attention of all who are desirous of cultivating an acquaintance with the eventful past and interesting present of British North America. But of this in its proper time and place.

The present volume will be found to contain a condensed history of Nova Scotia, from the time when it was first colonised by the French, to the present day; a picture, how imperfectly soever delineated, of the present state of the province, and a hasty glance at the probable future.

The Author, in this place, gratefully acknowledges the valuable assistance which he has received from the deservedly popular works of Hali- burton, Dawson, and several others, especially P. Hamilton Esq., upon whose excellent treatise entitled "Nova Scotia considered as a Field for Emigration," he has drawn freely.

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