SKETCHES ILLUSTRATIVE OF IMPORTANT PERIODS IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD. TO WHICH ARE PREFIXED SOME INTRODUCTORY OBSERVATIONS INTENDED TO FACILITATE THE STUDY OF HISTORY. SECOND SERIES

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MARY MILNER

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BT

MARY MILNER,

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RIGHT REVEREND DANIEL WILSON, D. D., LORD BISHOP OF CALCUTTA,

AND METROPOLITAN OF INDIA.

My LORD,

While I thus, by your Lordship's permission, dedicate to you the following pages, it can scarcely be necessary, that I should express my deep sense of the kindness which prompted this permission, and the many instances of which, must ever command my gratitude.

Deeply gratified, however, as I am, by the mark of friendship with which your Lordship has thus honoured me, I am yet more gratified by the hope, that the sanction of your Lordship's name on its title page, may introduce my little volume to the attention of many by whom it might otherwise have been disregarded.

Should this hope be justified by the event, it must ever be to me a source of lively satisfaction, that, by asking the permission which your Lordship, at once, so kindly granted, I ensured the circulation of a work, of which, it is the main object to recommend those great Christian doctrines, which it has been the labour of your Lordship's life to explain and enforce, and upon the right acceptation of which, the salvation of man depends.

I am, my Lord,

With the utmost respect,

Your Lordship's grateful and faithful Servant,

MARY MILNER.

THE VICARAGE, APPLERY, WESTMORLAND, December, 1846.

PREFACE.

The very favourable reception which was accorded to the "Sketches Illustrative of Important Periods of History," a Second Series of which, I now present to the Public, encourages me to hope, that the present volume may not be unacceptable to those readers, who recognize, in the records of history, the evidence of a superintending and over-ruling Providence, and who, in their study of those records, are careful to trace the directing hand of Him, by whom all events, however apparently fortnitous, are ordered in subservience to the accomplishment of his own designs.

It is especially desirable, that young persons should be led to observe, in the course of this world, the operation of "the finger of God;" and although it will not be till the whole of this human scenery shall be finally folded up, that we shall be enabled—the Divine purposes being then little book may fall, such persons will, at least, be prepared to study with profit and pleasure those many excellent historical works which supply the details that are here omitted; and —as I would venture to hope,—prepared, also, to trace in the records of history an invaluable commentary upon those of Inspiration.

M. M.

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