A BRIEF HISTORY OF IRELAND

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A Brief History of Ireland by Bernard Bird

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BERNARD BIRD

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HISTORY OF IRELAND.

BY BERNARD BIRD.

AUTHOR OF "THE PERAMBULATIONS OF BARNEY THE IRISHMAN."

Were all the books that are published reduced to their quintessence, many a bulky author would make his appearance in a penny paper. There would be scarcely any such thing in nature as a folio: the works of an age would be contained on a few shelve; not to mention millions of volumes that would be annihilated.—ADD:SON.

[ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL]

SHEFFIELD:

PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR BY J PRABOR, JUN., HIGH STREET. 1853.



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MICHAEL HUNTER, ESQ.,

MASTER CUTLER OF SHEFFIELD AND HALLAMSHIRE,

THIS

LITTLE HISTORY OF MY NATIVE ISLAND,

19, BY PERMISSION,

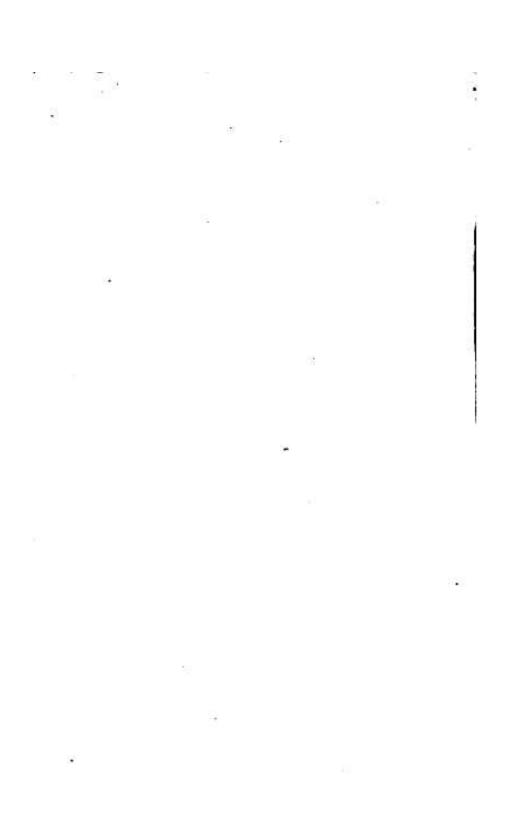
WITH ALL DUE DEFERENCE AND ESTREM,

MOST RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,

BY

HIS MOST OBLIGED AND MOST GRATEFUL SERVANT,

BERNARD BIRD.



PREFACE.

COURTEGUS READER.

I have for many years been impressed with the opinion that the great body of the middle and lower classes of the people of England are comparatively ignorant of the History of Ireland, and I have frequently wondered that a small History of that country has not been published at a price within the reach of these whose limited means could not procure for them more extended and first-rate publications on that subject. England, Scotland, and Wales, have each their minatures of the principal features of their respective Histories. It will, therefore, I trust, not be deemed presumptuous in me to offer to the public a small and abridged manual of this kind, which embraces and exhibits the principal features and events of Irish History. pretend to no originality in this production: I have simply selected from more voluminous authors such matter as appears to me to be the most useful, and arranged it in such a manner as will, no doubt, afford considerable pleasure in its perusal. In conclusion, I can only observe that in this bouquet there is nothing of mine but the string by which it is tied together: should any one be desirous of cutting that string and examining the parts separately, he is at liberty to do so; but I fancy the labour of the critic would be a barren one, and the different parts of the trifle will smell as sweet unbound as in a more compact and elegant form. Such as it is I present it to the public, and I shall be highly gratified if it meet with as kind a reception and patronage as my other work-"The Perambulations of Barney the Irishman."