

PREFACE

TO THE

FALL OF REPUBLICS.

"Hasty climbers have sudden falls."

THE Romans the Republic had tried—
The most sapient nation on earth;
For a time it breathed, lived and died,
But reaped an untimely death.
With their Biblical reason reverse
To the order or novelty of things;
God's ordinance no more nor no less
Carried out in succession by kings.

In France it was planted with skill,
But failed in producing the fruit;
Napoleon, to work out his will,
Would never permit it to root.
All the red Republic had done
Was to change one king for another;
And before the election was run
Napoleon was there without bother.

The Republic was tried under Cromwell,
Before Charley fell from the throne;
After Oliver himself got a tumble,
The Commonwealth fell like a stone.
That useful usurper had showed
The Reformation had headed all things;
The safest guarantee on the road
Was the descendants of liberal kings.