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## PREFACE.

The substance of the following pamphlet was given in a Thanksgiving Discourse in the First Baptist Church, Boston, November 29 ; in a paper before the Baptist Congress assembled in Richmond, Va., December 4th ; and in an address before the Ladies' Union, of Melrose, December 10th. The whole was delivered in Music Hall, December 23d, 1888. In response to numerous requests, I print it as delivered the last time. The importance of the subject to American citizens of every class, and not the adequacy of its treatment in this pamphlet, justifies, it seems to me, this publication.

P. S. M.

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