

## Dedication

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To M. U. S. AND M. B. S.

MY DEAR COUSINS.—As it is mainly owing to your joint advice and encouragement that this tale has been either written, or laid before the public, there can be none to whom I may with greater propriety dedicate it.

When I add that my satisfaction in making this slight acknowledgment of the countless acts of affectionate kindness I have received at your hands, is one among the many agreeable results of the advice which has eventually led me to adopt a literary career, you will not refuse to accept this assurance, that you have contributed to the happiness of one whose sphere, both of duties and pleasures, Providence has seen fit to limit.

That our friendship may continue uninterrupted through Time, is the hope, and through Eternity, is the prayer, of your affectionate friend and cousin,

THE AUTHOR.