PREFACE.

Consort characterised as one of the greatest Sovereigns that ever occupied the English Throne.

Moreover, the present period seemed to the author most opportune. Recent movements of the Roman Hierarchy for the revival of the mediæval power of the Church, and also the proclamation of its startling dogmas—the Immaculate Conception and Papal Infallibility appeared to demand new and skilful treatment on the part of free Governments. What was done by England in the past may require to be repeated in the future, and it will be well for her if, when the hour of trial comes, she be found faithful to her traditions, and prompt to place her old ægis of Truth between her children and the advancing tide of slavery and error.

BELFAST, May, 1876.

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