

Preface.

TH E poet Keats brought upon himself the terrible criticism of the Quarterly Review because he happened, in his preface to "Endymion," to suggest that the critics leave him alone instead of condemning his work. In offering this historic sketch for your perusal I also pass on the suggestion of the illustrious poet.

The historian is mysterious in many of his ways, but in none more so than in his handling of events. Hard hearted men will tell you that if you give a woman a copy of a newspaper to read, that she will at once perform a curious juggling trick with it, the consequence of which is that when the newspaper is returned to you it will be impossible to find any connection between its various pages. The female reader not only turns the paper inside out but she manages in some way known only to herself to mix the pages together so that a leading article on "Social Betterment" ends in an "ad" for the relief of pain in your back, and a paragraph narrating the vagaries of an insane man loses itself in an account of a fashionable wedding. No such juggling has been attempted in this book. It is presented to the members of the Yarmouth Curling Club with the sincere hope that it may prove both interesting and useful as a faithful