

have made his work much more valuable had he re-written it at a later day. But narratives of the kind of this of Mr. Norton's would not at the time of its publication, attract the attention of the reading public. His immediate friends, and the friends of those in captivity with him, were about all who would take any interest in its publication. There was no charm of composition about it. Its details are the dryest possible. Hence its circulation was of the most limited kind. This circumstance may account for its extreme scarcity, which scarcity probably extends back to within a very few years of its publication. Many of the most valuable works have been issued in small editions; a few copies only bound or stitched up to meet the first demands of friends; the rest are taken by the author into the country, perhaps in sheets, and eventually used for waste paper; or, possibly left on the printer's hands to meet a similar fate. Such cases are known to the writer.