PREFACE.

though a republic such as they possess, organized as it was, carefully and deliberately, by the most clear-headed and enlightened men the country has ever produced, and aided by the enthusiastic support of the entire nation, may suit their peculiar tastes and ideas, yet that it does not at all follow that it would succeed in England, where it would most probably be the handiwork of hot-headed zealots, acting in opposition to a large proportion of the people, and where it must inevitably rise on the ruins of a constitution which centuries have identified with us, and which has become endeared to a large majority of the nation by the blood and talents of its best and noblest, through succeeding generations.

I had a strong prejudice against the American people, acquired by meeting very bad specimens on the Continent; but I have convinced myself it was unfounded; and I do not hesitate to say, that I met as agreeable women and as gentlemanly men in America as the world can produce.

I hope that any remarks I may have made galling to the *amour propre* of the American people, they will remember are entirely confined

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