

TO .

COL. WILLIAM W. SEATON.

MY DEAR COLONEL,—The practice of dedication, like many other pleasant customs of the olden time, which tended to check the growth of cold and selfish feelings, has become so nearly obsolete that I have had some hesitation in giving way to my impulses on this occasion. I have doubted whether it would be at all agreeable to you to be implicated in any thing that smacked so much of "*old-fogyism*." But, independently of the dictates of my feelings, there appeared to me so many good and appropriate reasons why this volume should be dedicated to you, that I will run the risk of taking your consent for granted. I know of no one to whom the work is more likely to prove interesting, or who will be better able to judge of the accuracy of its statements, and at the same time more disposed to view its faults with lenity, knowing that they have not proceeded from any intention to misrepresent facts, or a willingness to asperse the fame of living or dead. The work, too, relates to the most important event in the history of the city over which you so long presided with so much honor to yourself