



PREFACE.

THE first edition of this work, which was only intended to supply the people of the immediate vicinity, but was sought for with equal interest by those of the sister provinces, and was, therefore, entirely inadequate to supply the extraordinary demand.

We now publish this edition of 40,000, in order to supply the deficiency of the first, and also to circulate throughout the length and breadth of the mighty Republic, where enterprise always finds a field.

The unequalled success of the first edition, fully compensated the labor of the task we undertook in writing in the lonely cell, but better still to know, that during the short interval since its publication, two innocent fellow beings are set at liberty, no more to wear the convict's chains; and we hope the investigation will go on, until all such as suffered in person, in property, or in character will be vindicated.

ENTERED according to Act of Congress, in the year 1850,

BY F. S. LAUGHLIN,

In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the United States, for the District of Massachusetts.