

ar 1859, by

nited States, in
nia.

PREFACE.

CALIFORNIA is my theme. She is now an integral portion of this great Republic. A mighty population from all parts of the world has congregated on her shores, and with giant strides she marches on to power and greatness. Her mineral wealth seems inexhaustible, vast sums of gold being annually exported to the Atlantic States and elsewhere.

But a few short years and her condition was widely different. With but a sparse white population; with a government hardly existing other than in name, deeds of wrong, of violence, and of blood were of constant occurrence. Of this interesting portion of her history comparatively little is known; and it is of this period that I propose to write. To what I saw and heard while in the country has

(iii)