

## PREFACE.

It was the good fortune of the author to have been on board the U. S. frigate Niagara during the Atlantic Telegraph expeditions of 1857-'8, and to have been present on the occasion of the landing of the cable in Newfoundland on the memorable 5th of August. While on these expeditions he acted in the capacity of special correspondent of the New York Herald, and in that position collected a large amount of information in regard to the history, progress, and successful completion of the great enterprise. This he embodies in the following pages, and it is enough to say that he was present at every scene therein described, and was acquainted with every step in the progress of the undertaking; that he knew the men by whom it was so successfully carried on, and that he has faithfully endeavored to deserve the title which he has received of "Historian of the Enterprise."

He takes advantage of this opportunity to return his thanks to the ward-room officers of the Niagara for the many kindnesses and courtesies which he received at their hands during the eleven months he spent on board that ship as their guest, and to Captain Hudson for the