

ANTICIPATION.

Our sympathy is with the gifted author who held it reprehensible for a book to need a preface ; — If it (the book) requires such aid, to explain purpose or clarify meaning, it is incomplete, and ought not be published ! — and, like him, we proceed to do violence to our perdition ; tho', forsooth, we give the offence another, and for its intent, more appropriate name.

Were we cognizant of the many imperfections and blemishes — mayhap, anachronisms — critical mind and ripened erudition will readily discern in our literary child, they would have correction ; else, the whole concealed for the solitary gratification its workmanship affords.

Transgressions, the existence of which we are aware, and still father, look to us for protection, and such forestalling as may minimize the punishment censure keeps at hand to chastise temerity.

Our play makes no pretence to historical accuracy. It is a story, in acting form, woven around personages — whose existence and deeds are disclosed by the high lights of history — and into incidents, that had place and action in a tempestuous period of The Holy Roman Empire.

To both — persons and incidents — our fiction, confesses its appropriations ; nor, asks credit, that the thefts were not greater. It avows, that, with those so purloined, it has taken much latitude and all the irreverent liberty necessary to enhance the tale, sustain the interest and preserve the "unities." In the doing, if injustice dispare individuals who once had personality and prominence ; or, misrepresentation falsify events, to which they gave reality and with which they held the world's stage, it is chargeable to want of better enlightenment.