

up to the present time. Partly in response to this request, and partly because I am informed of several other writers having intimated their intentions of filling the gap if I failed to do so, I have been persuaded to prepare the following volumes, which I hope will be of sufficient value and contain enough merit to warrant the appreciation of all workmen who may have on some occasion or other, to make use of the steel square.

It is not necessary for me in this preface to remind the young workman of to-day of the necessity of arming himself with all the resources of modern methods and appliances for the performance of his work, if he desires to stand in the front rank of his trade. This is so evident that he who runs may read it on every street corner. It is the bright, well-informed young man that wins the race, and the fellow who drops his tools at the first clang of the bell at quitting time and gives no further thought either to his work or his tools until the commencement of work again the following day, always remains at the foot of the ladder, and wonders how it is he does not prosper and thrive at the same rate as his more energetic and studious fellow workman. A few hours' quiet study each week during the winter nights