

PREFACE

In 1872 I contributed to a mechanical journal a few short papers on "The Use of the Carpenter's Steel Square." A few years later, i.e., 1877, I wrote on the same subject a series of papers for "The American Builder," the most prominent building magazine at that time published in America. These papers, I am led to believe, were among the first that were ever issued devoted entirely to describing the uses and applications of the square, and so well did they meet with the appreciation of workmen who were interested in the steel square, that the writer was urged personally and by letters from all sides to put the papers in book form, and this was done in 1879, with the result that several hundred thousand copies of the work have been sold, and the demand has not yet decreased.

Since the first appearance of the little book above named the writer has been requested by hundreds of the readers thereof to still further pursue the subject and embody in one work all that is known of the square and that can be accomplished with it so far as can be gathered