

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

It is gratifying to me to find that this little book has met with such a degree of acceptance that a second edition is called for, the first having been issued in 1885.

I have carefully revised it, and brought down the information it embodies to the present date. I have added three chapters—one being a continuation of the history from 1884 till 1890. The chapters on “Education” and “How we are Governed” will, I venture to hope, add to the interest and value of a book which is designed to impart to the young a knowledge of the vicissitudes through which their country has passed, and the struggles and toils by which freedom has been won and constitutional rights secured.

To the story of this, the oldest British Colony, a special interest belongs. In the New World, England's flag first floated here. Her first success in maritime discovery was won here. Her first attempt at colonisation was carried out here. In prosecuting the fisheries of Newfoundland, English sailors first learned how to rule the waves. The wealth derived from these fisheries helped largely to build up England's greatness. For many years the fisheries of Newfoundland were the best nursery for her seamen. Great and heroic men took part in the early colonisation of the Island, and the glory which their names shed on its history should never be forgotten. On its shores a race of hardy,