

## INTRODUCTION.

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IN as much as the French mind has a clearer and more acute perception of persons and things in general, (so says *William Matthews*, one of the best writers that this country has produced), as stated by *Dr. Lord of Stamford*, in his "*Beacon-Lights of History*," though lacking that schrewdness and boldness which characterize what people usually call the Anglo-Saxon race; it was my fate to return, after more than thirty years' absence, among a society where as a teacher and younger man, I had received so many marks of esteem, friendliness and consideration.

Returning, under sad circumstances, to what I had considered a *Home*; bereft of every one of my kindred, ease and comfort which I had unfortunately sacrificed in hair-brained speculations at the *Bourse of Paris*, hence on the altar of *Mammon*, I was gratified with the flattering recollection that my name and labours had not been altogether forgotten.

In order to insure a more *persistent* success, in my endeavors to regain that former favor I had enjoyed in my younger days, I published some *\*poetical effusions and portraits* in English and in French, with the expectation they would enhance my merit, and counterbalance my loss of *youth and beauty*.

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