PREFACE.

carried on by male passengers, and it then became expedient to the conspirators to employ this Matron, who could cross to and fro unsuspected and execute the business of the secret service more effectually, she having crossed the Atlantic soveral times and delivered all her dispatches safely. She had, at numerous times, passed under the most scrutinizing eye of the most vigilant detectives, whose skill had failed in detecting the source from which all communication had been carried on; and having a perfect knowledge of all secrets emanating from the several nocturnal camps in which she was conversant, she spoke the Fenian sentiment in reality. The Bard answers every question most respectfully, at the same time enters fully into the origin of the Fenian Bubble. proving to the manifestation of all that that seditious scheme was concocted in America, at the termination of the Southern War. It immediately occurred to him that some accurate account should be written, holding up to the public gaze the reality and fallacy of the cause. the result of which was the bringing out of this Fenian Episode, which will be found true and most pleasing.

In conclusion, he pays a high tribute of bravery to the Canadian volunteers, who nobly met and repulsed the Fenian raid, they having invaded that Dominion in revenge for some imaginary wrong inflicted by England on Ireland.

This brings to memory, the anecdote of an Irishman in America, who met and beat his countryman to death; the neighbours actually saw the act committed, and were in the act of lynching him first—asking why he did so, he ejaculated and said, "because that very man's cousin humbugged his old sister Nancy some fifty years ago."