"TRUSTUM" AND HIS GRANDCHILDREN

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"Trustum" and his grandchildren by Harriet B. Worron

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HARRIET B. WORRON

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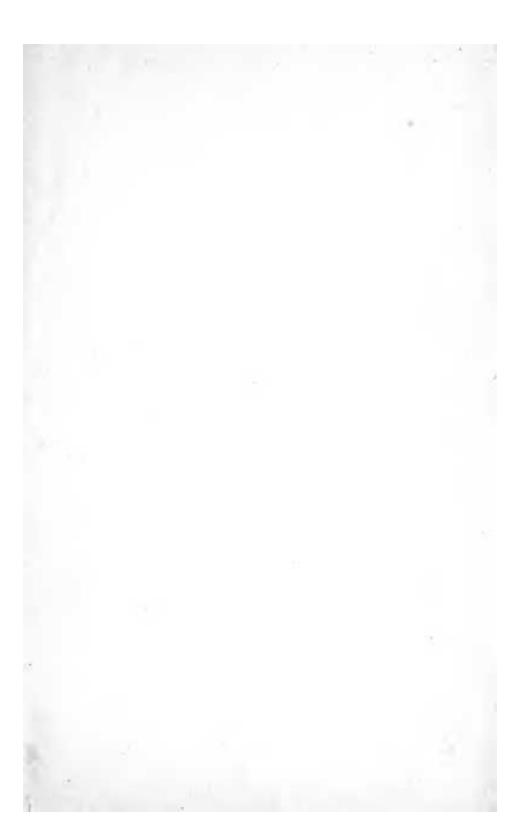
PREFACE.

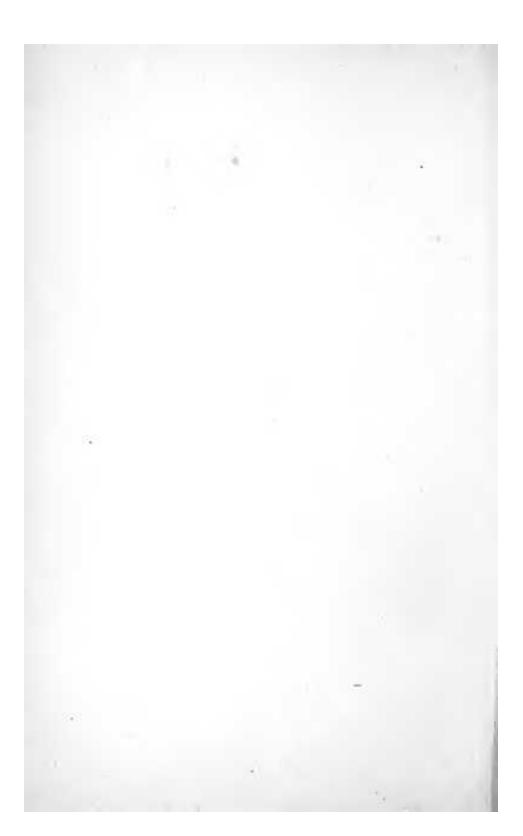
In presenting to the public a work which depends chiefly upon records and traditions, it is often a difficult matter to so arrange events, that they shall not conflict with records that have ever been considered authentic and reliable.

Some discrepancies may be found in the following pages, arising from the fact, that in some cases, dates and events as recorded by different individuals, have not always agreed, and, upon reference to private family records, still greater differences have been found. Thus, John Gardner's settlement upon the Island, recorded by some authorities in 1672, by others, is recorded as taking place at the same time as that of his brother, Richard. in 1666. The same with Nicholas Coffin, (grandfather of Tristram) who died in England. While it is recorded by some that his death occurred in 1613, other authority gives the date 1603; and the same is true in several other cases, the difference in the records being yet more marked.

In the events herein recorded, I have relied principally, upon old records and traditions, as well as events related in many instances, by those who either participated in them, or handed them down to posterity as they were related by those whose voices have for many years been silent in death. In some instances, imagination has been made use of, to describe events which have transpired, the particulars of which are not to be found on record; but the principal events and characters are founded upon traditions which have been handed down for ages, as well as facts which actually occurred and personages who actually lived and participated in the scenes recorded, as far forth as can be obtained from numerous sources of authority.

In the hands of the reader 1 leave the work, trusting that from its pages, they may gather some idea of the closeness of relationship, which has existed in by-gone days, between the descendants of the early inhabitants, and especially between those who are descended from the different members of the family of Tristram Coffin.





"TRUSTUM" AND HIS GRANDCHILDREN.

Ι.

A COLD, stormy day in winter was drawing to a close. The rain poured in torrents, and the wind, whistling and howling in furious gusts, rattled against the windows and doors of a moderate sized house, situated some distance back from the road, in the town of Brixton, near Plymouth, Devonshire, in the southwestern part of England.

In a small room, opening from what seemed to be the sitting room of the family, a young man sat at a table, surrounded with papers, books and writing materials. His head leaned upon his hand, and though he had apparently, been engaged in writing, his mind was evidently occupied with other thoughts, and his face wore a sad, anxious look, as he sat there gazing into the open fire. Presently the door opened, and a youth of fifteen or sixteen, entered the room.