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**ISAAC SHARPLESS**

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# ENGLISH EDUCATION

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SECONDARY SCHOOLS

BY

ISAAC SHARPLESS, Sc.D., LL.D.

PRESIDENT OF HAVERFORD COLLEGE, PENNSYLVANIA

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## EDITOR'S PREFACE.

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ACCORDING to our classification of educational books in this series, the present work falls in the first division, under the History of Education.

There are no two nations on exactly the same road, politically or educationally. Hence it is important for the director of schools to clearly understand its national point of view before he attempts to pass judgment on the fitness of a school system or proposes to transplant it to his own country.

England stands in the world-history for the originator of the political system of local self-government. It is a historic growth, and not a theoretical invention hatched in the minds of statesmen or political philosophers. Each of the constituent peoples in the combination—Celt, Roman, Angle, Saxon, Dane, and Norman—was so stubborn as to be invincible within some last citadel of its own, and the struggle for dominion had to end in a compromise. In a compromise two wills are united and victorious; each respects the other and adopts it as its own to a certain extent. In an absolute conquest only one will remains dominant, while one is destroyed.

Out of a manifold compromise arose the British Constitution, each element of the population having