

**CHESHIRE, ITS HISTORICAL AND
LITERARY ASSOCIATIONS,
ILLUSTRATED IN A SERIES OF
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES**

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Cheshire, Its Historical and Literary Associations, Illustrated in a Series of Biographical Sketches by T. Worthington Barlow

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T. WORTHINGTON BARLOW

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C H E S H I R E :
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SKETCHES.

BY

T. WORTHINGTON BARLOW, Esq. F.L.S.

AND OF THE HON. SOCIETY OF GRAY'S INN.

MANCHESTER: BURGE & PERRIN.

LONDON: W. KENT & CO.

1862.

TO

THE REV. THOMAS HODGES, M.A.

AND

THE REV. CHARLES BISHOPE HODGES, M.A.

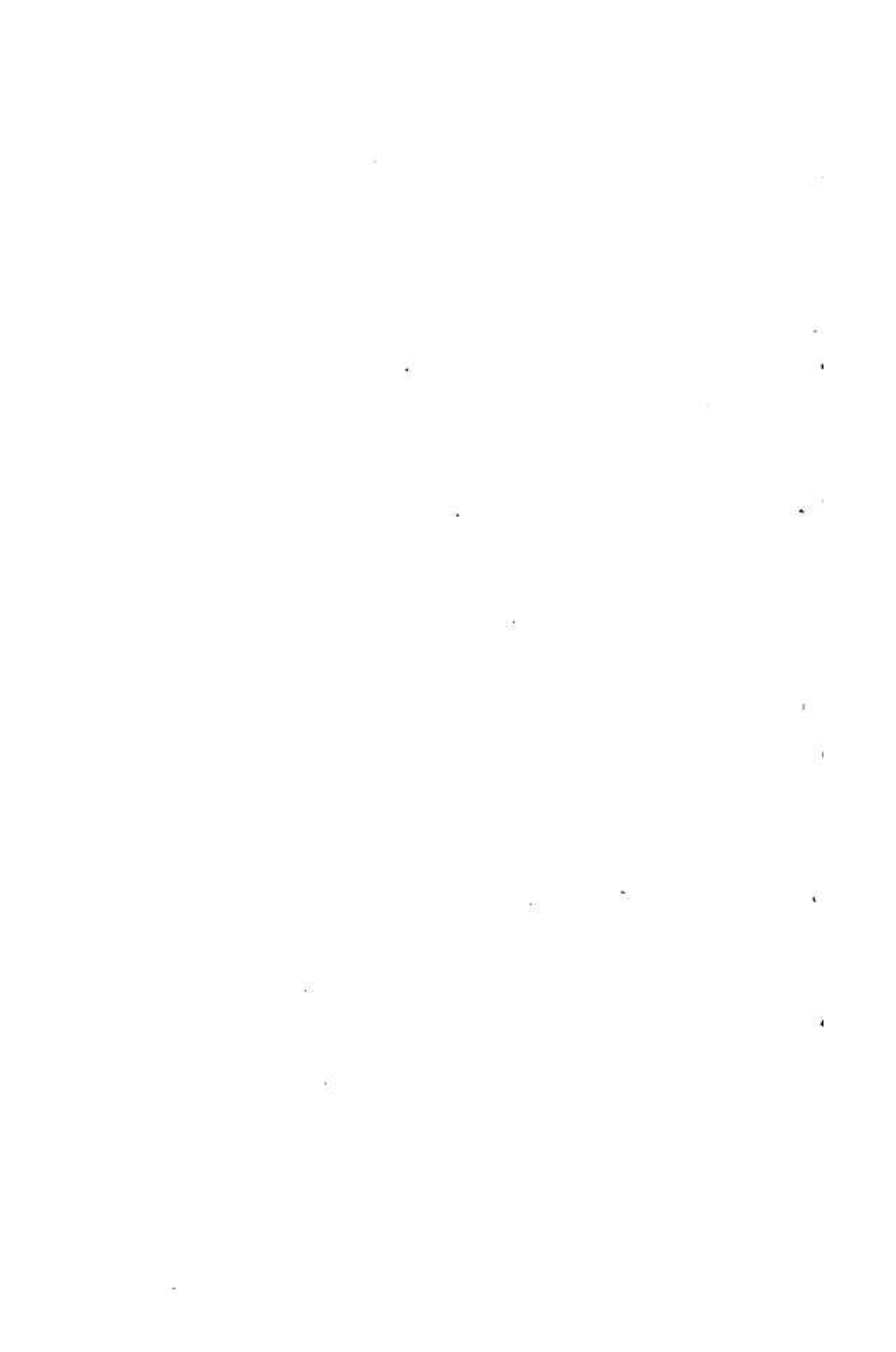
BOTH "CHESHIRE MEN,"

This little Book

IS MOST AFFECTIONATELY INSCRIBED BY THEIR NEPHEW,

The Compiler.

JULY 2nd, 1863.



P R E F A C E .

THERE are probably few Counties possessing so many agreeable and time-hallowed associations as Cheshire. 'Tis true we meet with few of those striking remains of bye-gone times, the "castled-steeps" and "turrets high," which reanimate the past, and carry us back to the age of Feud and Chivalry. Still, almost every nook and corner has its own peculiar history, teeming with interest for such as have the inclination and leisure to make it the subject of inquiry.

Speed calls Cheshire the "seed-plot of gentility;" and Selden, after remarking that in the northern parts of England "the gentry is "from ancient time left preserved in continuance of *name, blood, and place,*" concludes by adding, that this is most particularly the case in Cheshire. In short, all our Antiquaries affirm, with one consent, that for *antiquity, loyalty, and hospitality,* Cheshire cannot be equalled.

In the following pages I have endeavoured, in a series of short Biographical Notices of the most illustrious Cestrians, to furnish something like a key to the historical and literary associations of the County. To me the work has been a "labour of love," and has

furnished a delightful relaxation, by enabling me to withdraw occasionally from the cares and turmoils to which, of necessity, a young professional man is constantly exposed, and to revel in ideas among the scenes and haunts of my early days. Whether my self-imposed task has been creditably performed, it is for my Readers to decide. If I fail, no great harm will be done; but should my labours be rewarded by any measure of success, the meed of approbation will acquire a double value when received at the hands of those who are almost my neighbours.

To quote from Mr. Washington Irving's eloquent and beautiful description of a visit to Stratford-on-Avon:—"He who has sought
"renown about the world, and has reaped a full harvest of worldly
"favour, will find, after all, that there is no love, no admiration, no
"applause, so sweet as that which springs up in his native place. It
"is there that he seeks to be gathered in peace and honour among
"his kindred and his early friends; and when the weary heart and
"failing head begin to warn him that the evening of life is drawing
"on, he turns, as fondly as does the infant to the mother's arms, to
"sink to sleep in the bosom of the scene of his Childhood."