BOSTON COMMON. A DIARY OF NOTABLE EVENTS, INCIDENTS, AND NEIGHBORING OCCURRENCES. SECOND EDITION

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Boston Common. A Diary of Notable Events, Incidents, and Neighboring Occurrences. Second Edition by Samuel Barber

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BY

SAMUEL BARBER

AUTHOR OF "A MATRIMONIAL EXPERIMENT". "TRASH". A SOCIETY NOVEL: ETC.

SECOND EDITION



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To

Miss Lois Hildegarde Hall

of New York

With the warmest friendship I inscribe this volume

FOREWORD

Boston Common belongs to the world. In or around it took place events which link it with the history of government for and by the people in this country. From it radiated the influences that led to democratic as opposed to aristocratic rule. To it can be traced the gatherings in town halls by the substantial men in Massachusetts, and other commonwealths; and the famous little red schoolhouses date their inspiration from the public exercises that took place on the classic green in Boston. As the years have progressed, interest in the Boston Common has increased year by year. Details that appeared to be of slight moment in the early history of the country are now sought after. Whatever has taken place there or in the vicinity of it has become in a sense hallowed to the lover of liberty.

The very great distance in time between the present and the early planting of Boston Common, together with the apparent neglect of chroniclers of events in connection with it, has made difficult the collation of facts respecting the time honored centre of Boston. The author has endeavored to faithfully and chronologically register the results of his researches in the following pages. Accuracy has been his one desire and care. It is that feature on which he bases his right to be heard, and on which he believes that his efforts will be of profit to the reader. To those who have aided him, either by advice or by their registered dates, he returns his thanks and acknowledgements.

BOSTON.

Boston, the American Athens, stands in the front rank of social, commercial and political prominence. The reputation of families of culture has spread throughout the country, and its leading men, as one generation has followed another, have wielded a mighty influence in moulding public opinion and promoting its resources. It abounds in historic landmarks, which date from Colonial days, and its modern development, with its broad avenues, buildings and parks, has equalled, if not excelled, any city in the world.

THE COMMON.

The Common, with all its historic associations, is now the Park of the City with its fountains, statues, malls and lake. It has always been the scene of all kinds of incidents—historic, dramatic, tragic, and is now the feature in its landscape and beauty. It might be called an indicator of all that ever occurred in Boston.