

THE POWER OF BEAUTY

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The Power of Beauty by J. T. Headley

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J. T. HEADLEY

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OF BEAUTY**

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BY J. T. HEADLEY.

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THE
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BY THE
Rev. J. T. Headley
REV. J. T. HEADLEY.

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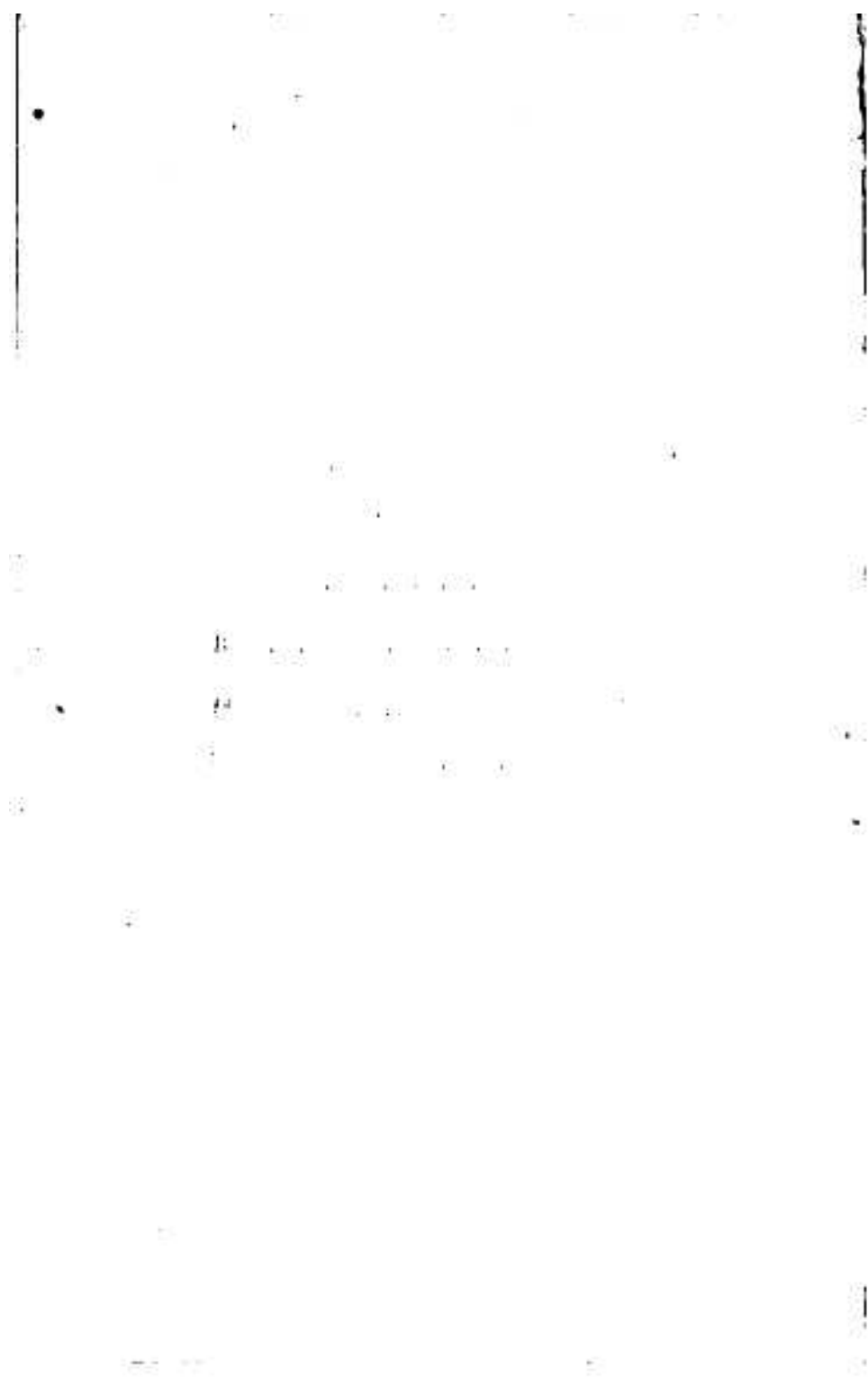
John G. May, Esq
of Dorchester.

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PUBLISHER'S PREFACE.

IN prosecuting the plan we formed in the beginning, of furnishing the Literary Public of America with economical and elegant editions of all the writings of Mr. Headley, worthy of a place in such a collection, we have thus far issued no volume which has stronger claims on the community than this—no one which will probably enjoy more general and permanent fame.

There is a certain laudable curiosity among all persons, to see how far an author who has won eminence in one field, will sustain himself when he enters another; particularly in the case of Mr. Headley. After shedding the brilliant light of his genius over the great battle-fields of Europe, and producing sketches of the Illustrious Marshals of Napoleon, which cannot be rivaled in our Litera-

ture, it was a somewhat hazardous experiment, it must be confessed, to roll off the cloud of battle for the sunshine of Beauty and Love. Our readers who remember with what vividness and consummate ability Mr. Headley has made the plume of Murat dance in the smoke of battle, will be delighted to see how easily and gracefully his magical pen glides from scenes of carnage to the couch of beauty and luxuriousness. Feeling that in "Esther or the Power of Beauty," and "Ruth," and Naomi, Mr. Headley has produced the most glowing and impassioned sketches of the enchanting influence of female loveliness, anywhere to be found, we have printed them in a style of elegance worthy of the subject. We have spared no labor or expense in embellishing these most superb sketches in the most elegant style—and well are they worthy of the outlay, for they will hereafter be pointed to as faultless portraits in their way. It would be in vain in the matchless poems of Byron or Moore, in which they have portrayed so many and such enchanting beings, to find one drawn in lines of more bewitching beauty, and even the myriad-minded Dumas has probably surrounded no heroine of his