

PUDDLEFORD, AND ITS PEOPLE

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Puddleford, and Its People by H. H. Riley

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H. H. RILEY

**PUDDLEFORD,
AND ITS PEOPLE**



THE JUSTICE'S COURT OF DODDLEFORD.

The testimony of Sonora Brown, the witness who "didn't know any thing worth talkin' on," and who "warn't used to law suits, and didn't know how to swear,".... Page 12.

P U D D L E F O R D ,

AND

ITS PEOPLE.

B Y H . H . R I L E Y .

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS

NEW-YORK :
SAMUEL HUESTON, 348 BROADWAY.

1854.

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SAMUEL HURSTON,
In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the United States for the Southern
District of New-York.

John H. Craig,
PRINTER AND STEREOTYPES,
95 & 97 CHURCH ST. Frankfort.

TO MY

COUSIN JAMES

THIS WORK IS

AFFECTIONATELY INSCRIBED.

H. H. R.

P R E F A C E .



EVERY body who writes a book is expected to introduce it with a preface; to hang out a sign, the more captivating the better, informing the public what kind of entertainment may be expected within. I am very sorry that I am obliged to say that many a one has been woefully deceived by these outside professions, and some one may be again.

I am unable to apologise to the public for inflicting this work upon it. It was not through "the entreaty of friends" that it was written. It is not the "outpourings of a delicate constitution," (I weigh one hundred and sixty pounds.) I was not driven into it "by a predestination to write, which was beyond my control." It is not "offered for the benefit of a few near relatives, who have insisted upon seeing it in print," nor do I expect the public will tolerate it simply out of regard to my feelings, if their own feelings are not enlisted in its favor.

The book is filled with portraits of Puddleford and the Puddlefordians. The reader may never have seen the portrait of a genuine Puddlefordian. Bless me, how much that man has lost! If the reader does not like the painting after he *has* seen it, I can not help it; it may be the fault of the original, or it may be from a want of skill in the painter.

Like the carrier-pigeon, let it go, to return with glad tidings, or none at all.

