SHAWMUT, OR, THE SETTLEMENT OF BOSTON BY THE PURITAN PILGRIMS

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Shawmut, or, the Settlement of Boston by the Puritan Pilgrims by Charles Kittredge True

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CHARLES KITTREDGE TRUE

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SHAWMUT:

OR

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THE PURITAN PILGRIMS.

Like Israel's host to exile driven, Across the flood the Pilgrims fied; Their hands bore up the ark of Heaven, And Heaven their trusting footsteps led, Till on these savage abores they trod, And won the wilderness for God.—PIZEPORT.

BOSTON:

WAITE, PEIRCE AND COMPANY. 1846.

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PREFACE.

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THE following pages are designed particularly for the young, in the belief, that they ought to be constantly impressed with the origin of our nation. No city, especially, ever had a more sacred foundation than our favorite Capital. The ground on which we dwell is holy ground, consecrated to Christ by our pious ancestors, who came thither that they might more fully enjoy for themselves, and transmit to posterity, the religion of the Bible. The settlement of Shawmut is a type of the colonization of nearly all the Atlantic States, and especially of New England, which originated from similar causes, and was conducted in a similar manner. It is remarkable, also, that the elements of our present unrivalled civilization were, in some form, revealed in the very beginning of the settlement; some of these elements were, indeed, in conflict with ancient prejudices and the errors of the age; but Providence so ordered, that in process of time they became developed, and now

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PREFACE.

give substance and shape to society. These elements are inherent in the Gospel, and will ever manifest themselves where the Gospel is freely examined and proclaimed.

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In preparing this work, the author has consulted the best authorities, recent and remote, such as Winthrop's Journal, Dudley's letter, Mather's Magnalia, Bancroft's History of the U. States, Snow's History of Boston, and others mentioned in the body of the work. He has aimed at giving the book an unquestionable historical value, and is not conscious of communicating to it the slightest tinge of sectarian prejudice. Where the thread of the narrative would allow it, he has preferred to quote the very words of such authors as were eye-witnesses and actors in the scenes which they describe.

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