

**REMARKS ON  
LITERARY  
PROPERTY**

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Remarks on Literary Property by Philip H. Nicklin

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**PHILIP H. NICKLIN**

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BY PHILIP H. NICKLIN, A. M.,

Member of the American Philosophical Society;  
of the Ashmolean Society, Oxford;  
and, of the Natural History  
Society, Hartford.

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1838.

On March 6, 1852  
Received of S. H. S. F. N.

**Dedication.**

To HENRY C. CAREY, Esquire,

Member of the American Philosophical Society;

THIS LITTLE VOLUME

*Is Respectfully Inscribed,*

AS A MARK OF THE HIGH ESTIMATION IN WHICH

HIS LABOURS AS A POLITICAL ECONOMIST, AND

HIS CHARACTER AS A PUBLISHER,

ARE HELD BY

THE AUTHOR.



## PREFACE.



SOME may think it strange that an old Publisher should undertake to write a book, albeit a little one: there was however no such *undertaking*, but it was rather an *overtaking*: it was intended to publish Mr. Lowe's valuable article on Copyright, with a few prefatory remarks and a note or two, but during the concoction of said proemials, the writer was *overtaken* by the importance of the subject, which compelled him, *inertiâ nolente*, to convert a preface into nine chapters.

Mr. Lowe's article contains the history of Copyright, down to the year 1819, and its condition at that time. Its subsequent



history, alterations, and present condition, may be learned from the "Remarks."

In publishing this little volume, the writer's object is to draw the attention of authors, publishers, and readers, to a subject that is important to them all; and to furnish as much information on it as his limited means have enabled him to collect.

A friend has just handed to him a slip of paper containing the following information, from the best authority, which is inserted here because it came too late for the text:—"The copyright of publications in Denmark is perpetual. The reprinting of foreign works is generally permitted, with the exception of those of foreign countries protected by treaty stipulations, to which Denmark more particularly has acceded with the German states."

The subject of literary property is un-

der investigation at present in England, France, Germany and Prussia, and their inquiries will no doubt elicit much light: it is therefore to be hoped, that Congress will do no more at this session than appoint committees of inquiry, to report at a future time, when enough of information has been obtained to form a solid basis for sound legislation.

It is a very pleasant thing for a writer, after the body of his task is finished, to gossip a little in his preface, with his readers, (if there be any such predestinate unfortunates,) and that cacoesis is at present rife, but luckily for the saving of paper and patience, the *devil* has just come into the study, and holds forth his inky paw for copy, and therefore, "*voici le commencement de la fin*;" first advising you, amiable reader, that the compositor, (perhaps a young radical,) has set up the word *liberty* in place of the word

*library*, in the seventh line from the bottom of note on page 104, thereby knocking the sense out of the sentence.

Philad. 17th March, 1838.