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## PREFACE.

After nearly forty years of research I have published this First Number of my History of the Dudley Family. By the serial style I shall be able to correct all errors in the future numbers.

Let every one interested send me additions and corrections.

I wish also for cuts, illustrations and personal sketches as well as pedigrees.

Subscriptions of course will be necessary to insure the success of the laborious and expensive work.

Please send one dollar for this first number, and orders in writing for the rest, so they can be forwarded by mail as soon as published. There remains now but a brief time for me to use in completing this history. It is for my friends to come forward and help in the good enterprise. "Now or never" is the word,—“the watchword and reply.”

It will be readily seen that I have spent much unwearied toil and care upon these collections. All my life have I been preparing for this consummation. Hundreds and thousands of my old friends and coadjutors have died and left me pressing forward to finish this self-imposed task. But they encouraged me to their latest breath.

We must not disappoint either the living or the dead.

The Dudley Family, fortunately, is one of the most noted and interesting in the world. Here is material for a good history.

The four future numbers will follow in due season.

Complete indexes of names, pedigrees, authorities, &c., will be given to the whole work, and full explanations of all technical terms, illustrations and titles.

I expect to have many fine engravings to insert in the book.