

ROBA DI ROMA.



W. W. Story

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BY

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PREFACE

TO THE SIXTH EDITION.



THE present Edition has been carefully revised, and many additions have been made, which, it is hoped, will not be found to be without value and interest.

As it is going through the press, Rome has become an integral portion of the Kingdom of Italy, and will, in all probability, undergo many and important changes. Among others, the censorship of the press will be abolished, and free admission given to literature of all kinds; so that this book may now enter without that challenge which, on account of some opinions herein expressed, it has hitherto met. It is a curious illustration of the previous condition of things in Rome, that, although the government formally authorized its admission, it was, during the last two years, persistently stopped at the custom-house, on the avowed ground that the miraculous Bambino of Ara Coeli was mentioned with disrespect in its pages. This objection, however, no longer will prevail, and any traveller may now freely carry it with him, without danger of its being confiscated on the frontier.

Further alterations it is not my purpose to make, if sub-