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OF
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OLIVER CROMWELL'S LETTERS AND SPEECHES

BY
THOMAS CARLYLE.

IN FOUR VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

TAUCHNITZ EDITION.

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LETTERS AND SPEECHES:

WITH ELUCIDATIONS.

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LEIPZIG
BERNHARD TAUCHNITZ
1861.

PREFACE

TO THE SECOND (LONDON) EDITION.

THE First Edition of this Work* having, contrary to expectation, spread itself abroad with some degree of impetus, has, as in that case was partly natural, brought me into correspondence with various possessors and collectors of Cromwell Letters; has brought obliging contributions, and indications true and fallacious, from far sources and from near; and, on the whole, has disinterred from their widespread slumber a variety of Letters not before known to me, or not before remembered by me. With which new Letters it became a rather complex question what was now to be done.

They were not, in general, of much, or almost of any, intrinsic importance; might here and there have saved some ugly labour and research, had they been known in time; but did not now, as it turned out, tend to modify, in any essential particular, what had already been set down, and sent forth to the world as a kind of continuous connected Book. It is true, all clearly authentic Letters of Cromwell, never so unimportant, do claim to be preserved; and in this Book, by the title of it, are naturally to be looked for. But, on the

* December 1845.