



CHARLES THE BOLD, DUKE OF BURGUNDY.

7  $\frac{55}{53}$  HISTORY <sup>A</sup>

OF *Ku-1197*

CHARLES THE BOLD,

DUKE OF BURGUNDY.

BY JOHN FOSTER KIRK.



*N. Murray*

WITH PORTRAITS.

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TO  
JAMES LAWRENCE, ESQUIRE,  
OF BOSTON.

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MY DEAR MR. LAWRENCE,

I wish to be permitted to connect your name with this book, as well on account of the associations which first led you to feel an interest in its composition as because you, more than any other of my friends, have known the obstacles in its way, and have done all that friend—or man—could do to remove them.

Believe me, dear Mr. Lawrence,

Ever faithfully and affectionately yours,

J. F. KIRK.

## P R E F A C E.



FOR the greater number of the works consulted in the preparation of this History, the author was indebted to the kindness of the late William H. Prescott, who employed all the facilities at his command for procuring the requisite materials. Circumstances might be mentioned to explain the generous interest thus displayed in a doubtful enterprise by one who knew, because he had himself surmounted them, the difficulties of historical investigation. But, in truth, nothing was more characteristic of that distinguished and lamented man, than his readiness to afford encouragement, counsel, or assistance to the humblest of his fellow-labourers in an ample and ever-widening field.

The career of Charles the Bold has been commonly regarded as merely a romantic episode in European history. That the subject is in truth one of a very different nature has, however, been apparent to the Continental scholars who within the last twenty years have made a special study of its different portions, and whose researches have done much for the elucidation of its obscurer features. In the volumes now submitted to the public, to be completed by a third which is in course of preparation, an attempt has been made to combine in a symmetrical narrative