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THE STANDARD OF
PRONUNCIATION IN ENGLISH

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TO

FRANCIS ANDREW MARCH

PROFESSOR OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND
OF COMPARATIVE PHILOLOGY IN LAFAYETTE
COLLEGE, THIS TREATISE IS DEDICATED AS
A SLIGHT TOKEN OF RESPECT FOR HIS CHAR-
ACTER AND OF ESTEEM FOR HIS SCHOLARSHIP

PREFACE

THE idea which underlies the present essay originally constituted the subject of an address delivered at Easton in 1895. The occasion was the celebration held then and there in honor of the distinguished scholar to whom this little work is dedicated. At that time only a portion was given of the illustrative material which had been brought together. At a still later period additions were made to the address as originally prepared. From it thus enlarged selections were printed in the shape of two articles which appeared in *Harper's Magazine* for September and November, 1903. The whole treatise is now included in the present volume.

PREFACE

A complete list of the words, the pronunciation of which has for any reason received consideration in the body of the work, can be found at the end. The number of these is large; there would have been no difficulty in making it very much larger. In no case, however, have they been introduced for any other purpose than to illustrate a principle; and if those given fail to convince the reader of the truth of the views here advanced, it would be useless to multiply examples. Pains have further been taken to select, whenever possible, words in regard to which exists the interest of present controversy. About the propriety or impropriety of the pronunciation in any given case no judgment is expressed. My office has been to record, to the best of my knowledge, differences of opinion and of practice which have prevailed in the past or are prevailing now.