FROM FIFTH AVENUE TO ALASKA.

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTION.

THE writer is quite aware that he needs an introduction since he wishes to be read, and is assured by everybody that an unknown author will not be read by anybody: But how to become a "known" author before one has published anything is the puzzle.

I take comfort, however, on remembering a remark of Mr. Gladstone, who said that if the maiden speech of Disraeli in the House of Commons, hissed down and ridiculed as it was, had been made by LORD BEACONSFIELD, it would have been considered a great oratorical effort.

I had seen something of the older civilization of Europe, and wanted to see the newer civilization of the Great West, and the savage life of our newly acquired "Russian Possessions."