

corrections and suggestions have been extremely valuable.

It will be observed, that I have carefully confined myself to my subject—the “RESOURCES AND PROSPECTS OF AMERICA.” As far as possible, I have avoided all political allusions; and I have not attempted any descriptions of the country, or of the manners and habits of the people, which have been rendered familiar to us by far abler writers than myself. That which I have been anxious to afford my fellow-countrymen is an opportunity of forming a more correct judgment than that at which many have hitherto arrived, of the progress, means, and probable future of the great nation on the other side of the Atlantic, with which, by every tie of fraternity, we ought to be so closely allied.

In portions of this work I have drawn largely upon the several volumes of “Reports issued by the Commissioners of the Census of the United States, 1860.” At the commencement of my task I resorted to those Reports merely as books of reference, but I soon found that, on many points, they were of far higher value and importance. For the greater part of my statistical information I am indebted to those Reports, and I have followed the calculations of the Census even where I have found its figures liable to be disputed.