

spection and correction of the Author, who has also corrected all the proof sheets from the press.

After all the pains which have been taken, and the expense bestowed upon the Work, it must not be expected, for it is not pretended, that the Work is free from errors. Its nature, and the circumstance of its being the first work of the kind in this country, upon so large a scale, render its present perfection next to an impossibility. The Author, conscious of having done his utmost to render it complete, accurate and useful, solicits the candor of his readers, and particularly a correction of every error, however small, which falls under their observation. It is hoped that no very important or offensive error will be found in the Work.

In explanation of the Work, it is proper to observe, that the number of inhabitants in the several states, counties and towns, except in the states of New-York and Tennessee, where there has been a later enumeration, is taken from an official copy of the general census of 1790.

The distances and bearings of places are taken, in most instances, either from the list of Post-Offices; the tables in Registers and Almanacks, the Journals of travellers, the records or Journals of Legislatures, manuscript surveys, or from maps. In this part of the work, where the distances have been measured on maps, which, in too many instances, are not to be depended on, the Author is apprehensive that some errors will be found. The distances are generally reckoned as the roads run. When it is considered how liable transcribers and printers are to mistakes, in a work where figures and single letters standing for words, make so great a part of it; how great confusion the multitude of places of the same name in different states, and many times in the state, must create, and how difficult it is for an Author to correct a work of this complex kind, an apology will readily be found by a candid mind for a considerable number of mistakes, should they be found, in respect to the distances, bearings, latitudes and longitudes of places.

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