

not find any comments on the theoretical views of our author. He has discussed many subjects on which very different opinions are entertained in the United States, but with an ability, a candour, and an evident devotion to the cause of truth, which will commend his views to those who most radically dissent from them. Indeed, readers of the most discordant opinions will find that he frequently agrees with both sides, and as frequently differs from them. As an instance, his remarks on slavery will not be found to coincide throughout, either with abolitionists or with slaveholders: but they will be found to present a masterly view of a most perplexing and interesting subject, which seems to cover the whole ground and to lead to the melancholy conclusion of the utter impotency of human effort to eradicate this acknowledged evil. But on this, and on the various topics of the deepest interest which are discussed in this work, it was thought that the American readers would be fully competent to form their own opinions, and to detect any errors of the author, if such there are, without any attempt by the present editor, to enlighten them. At all events, it is to be hoped, that the citizens of the United States will patiently read and candidly consider the views of this accomplished foreigner, however hostile they may be to their own pre-conceived opinions or prejudices. He says,—“there are certain truths which Americans can only learn from strangers, or from experience.” Let us, then, at least listen to one who admires us and our institutions, and whose complaints, when he makes any, are, that we have not perfected our own glorious plans, and that there are some things yet to be amended. We shall thus furnish a practical proof, that public opinion in this country is not so intolerant as the author may be understood to represent it. However mistaken he may be, his manly appeal to our understandings and to our consciences, should at least be heard. “If ever, (he says,) these lines are read in America, I am well assured of two things: in the first place, that all who peruse them will raise their voice to condemn me: and in the second place, that very many of them will acquit me at the bottom of their conscience.” He is writing on that very sore subject, the tyranny of public opinion in the United States.

Fully to comprehend the scope of the present work, the author's