## PUBLISHER'S PREFACE.

and gave to the United States the unfortunate Jeannette, in which DELONG vainly attempted to penetrate the Arctic Ocean by way of Bering's Straits-has recently dispatched (from Washington Territory), LIEUT. FRED-ERICK SCHWATKA, and PROF. WILLIAM LIBBEY, JR., of Princeton College, N. J., to explore for that journal the St. Elias Alps of Alaska. When they arrive at Sitka they will organize an expedition of white men and Indian guides, interpreters and laborers, and spend the rest of the Summer in endeavors to explore the interior and ascend Mount Elias. Attention will be directed to the native tribes of Alaska, from whom it is anticipated much information of interest to ethnologists may be derived. The main object of the expedition, however, is geographical exploration in the St. Elias Alps, and the collection of such scientific and commercial information about the products and resources of Alaska as may be of value to the public.

W. L. A.

NEW YORK, June 29, 1886.