

THE PREFACE

THIS book is divided into two parts. In Part I the phenomena of earth, air, and sky are described in such a way as to lay the foundation for an intelligent study of the continents as places where men live and work. Part I is entitled "The Principles of Geography."

In Part II the physical features and the animals and plants are described and studied in the light of the principles discussed in Part I. The knowledge thus acquired is then used in the sections of the book devoted to man and his industries, in order that the pupil may realize how physical environment affects him socially, politically, and commercially. Part II is entitled "The Geography of the Continents." In this Part special emphasis has been placed upon commercial geography because of its practical value. The commercial importance and relations of the different countries are set forth with, as far as possible, the geographical reasons therefor. Toward the end of this Part, a map and sketch of the constituent parts of the British Empire have been given for convenient reference and review. The book closes with a summary of the world's commerce and industry, which will be revised from time to time as occasion may demand.

Maps. The continents and the Dominion of Canada are each represented by three sets of maps—physical maps, showing the land heights and water depths; political maps, giving the latest information with regard to boundaries and the situation of places; and commercial maps, showing the distribution of the leading products, the routes of domestic trades by land and water, and the principal oceanic routes.

Tables. For purposes of reference only, a number of commercial and other tables are given in the appendix. These statistics will also be revised from time to time in accordance with the census returns.

Proper Names. For the spelling of proper names in the Dominion of Canada the decisions of the Geographic Board of Canada have been adopted, both on the maps and in the text. In the case of other proper names, the decisions of the Royal Geographical Society of London have been adopted.

It is intended that the part of the text in larger type shall be studied in Form IV of the Public Schools, and that the part in smaller type shall be taken up along with the review of the course for Form IV, or Form V of the Public Schools, and the first year classes of High and Continuation Schools and Collegiate Institutes.