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To those who have not the time to turn over a large volume, who are not prejudiced against improvements in science and literature, who would learn the leading features of a very difficult branch and keep it in the memory, who have a relish for the novel, and a curiosity to know some of the most important and striking characteristics of nature and art; in a word, all unprejudiced and generous minds, to such, this work is respectfully dedicated and inscribed by their

Humble Servant,

THE AUTHOR,

who has spared neither time nor labor to make it useful and interesting.

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1849, by

GEORGE VAN WATERS,

In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the United States for the District of Ohio.

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Revised, enlarged and re-entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1863, by

JOHN G. WELLS,

In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the United States, for the Southern District of New York.
