

PREFACE.

THIS BOOK is founded upon a tour that was undertaken without any design of collecting materials for a book. The rewriting of notes made during that tour, and the gradual supplementing of these, from memory, from private correspondence with Americans, and from many publications on American subjects, have led to the collection of materials that now seem sufficient for a book. These materials, however, would not have been published, in the face of the increasing supply of books upon America, had it not seemed to the writer that the demand is fairly keeping pace with the supply ; and, also, that the subject is large enough to give to each of the writers, however numerous, sufficient room for keeping generally clear of the particular tracks gone over by the others.

London, 1870.