

TO THE READER.



No work having been published on America recently, it occurred to the author, whilst on a journey through Canada and the United States, last year, that, from the great change which the New World has undergone lately, recent information on the state of the country, and on subjects generally interesting to readers in Great Britain, got up in a style practically useful as well as instructive, might be acceptable at the present time.

To render such a work as interesting as possible, and at the same time assist him to more clearly illustrate some of the physical as well as a few of the social features of the country, the author has availed himself of the assistance of the Artist, Photographer, and Engraver, as he felt that any words of his own would fall short of doing that justice to the subjects and places which he was desirous of noticing.

To preserve as far as possible all the truthful details of the photographic views—from which many of the illustrations which appear are taken—the author has had them re-photographed upon wood by Price's new patent process, so that the engravers have been enabled to present exact representations of every scene taken from such; consequently, he feels confidence in submitting them for public approval.

To describe all the places noticed, from the author's own observations, was impossible in the time at his disposal. Consequently, a portion of what appears has been compiled from some of the most reliable sources, with the view of rendering the work more complete than it would otherwise have been. As, however, he is now in the course of visiting other localities in the United States, he will be able to present such, at a future time, from his own observations and experience, together with some other articles on "Things as they are," and illustrations which were not ready in time for this publication.

For easy reference, this work has been divided into five parts, with an index preceeding the contents of each part.

PART FIRST, contains descriptions and illustrations of some of the principal cities on the Atlantic seaboard, and north-western States of the United States.

PART SECOND, entitled "Scenes and Scenery," is intended to illustrate some of the most remarkable objects and places of interest in the United States and Canada.