

PREFACE.

IN consequence of numerous solicitations from various Instructors of Youth, the Author has been induced to compile the following Treatise upon a similar plan to that of his Abstract of General Geography, which has met with such extensive patronage.

In the selection of the materials, he has studiously avoided all unnecessary minuteness of detail, and has endeavoured to present to the student only what is essentially necessary to give him a competent knowledge of the subject. He has freely availed himself of the information contained in the most recent and the best authorities—among a number of others may be mentioned, Malte Brun, Balbi, M'Culloch, the Encyclopædia Britannica, the Penny Cyclopædia, and the Edinburgh Cabinet Library.

Every authority which could be procured has been consulted in the accentuation of the Proper Names, and it is confidently hoped that this department of the work will be found as accurate as can be expected from the nature of the subject.

EDINBURGH, 3, NORTH ST DAVID STREET,
31st October, 1842.