

PREFACE.

It will be seen, from a slight inspection, that the following little work is purely what it pretends to be—an easy compilation, adapted for the use of the junior classes in schools; and that it is not intended as a substitute for any of the larger works commonly used, but as an introduction to them.

The compiler has had very considerable experience in the instruction of youth, and with respect to Geography, has often felt the want of an easy introductory work, on the interrogative system, that might be put into the hands of a pupil at an early age. A number of little works, in the catechetical form, have, from time to time, made their appearance; but however valuable the information contained in them might be, still every teacher will admit, that they are not in the least calculated to pave the way to the larger and more difficult works, on the interrogative plan. To supply what he conceives to be a desideratum, is the intention of the compiler; how far he has succeeded, it is for the public to determine; but he flatters himself, that if a fair trial be given to these outlines, they will be found calculated not only to lessen the labours of the teacher, but also to prepare the pupil for entering upon the larger works with ease and pleasure to himself.

To those Ladies and Gentlemen who may honour the compiler by introducing this epitome into their establishments, he would respectfully suggest, that it will be used to the most advantage by the pupil's committing it to memory, and when

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