



## INTRODUCTION.

**T**HE War of the Revolution having resulted in Freedom and Peace, the Energies of the Nation were allowed to expand without Restraint, and a Spirit of Emigration soon spread among our People, especially in the Eastern States, to an Extent previously unknown. The Military Expeditions into the Indian Country had brought under the Notice of our Citizen Soldiers, Regions as yet unbroken by the Plow, whose broad Intervals, enriched by annual Overflow, gave Promise of inexhaustible Fertility, and whose ancient Orchards upon the Hillsides bore Evidence of a genial Climate, and gave Promise of unlimited Wealth under the Hand of the skilful Husbandman.

By a Compact recognized by the New Government, the Extension of the New York Settlements westward was checked by a Line passing along the present Eastern Border of Broome County, and up the Unadilla to its Source, and thence in a direct Line to a Point on Wood Creek about seven Miles west of Rome. This Line, known as the *Line of Property*, had been established as the Boundary of the Indian Lands, and no Settlement could be formed beyond