

P R E F A C E.

THE first Geography ever printed in America was prepared by the author's father (the late Rev. Dr. Morse), and published at New-Haven, Conn., in 1784. For many years Dr. Morse's works were the only text-books on Geography used in our schools and colleges. The name of the author was first associated with that of his father in the twenty-second edition of the School Geography published at Boston in 1820. Between that date and 1828 (two years after the death of Dr. Morse), five editions of the School Geography were published, the number of each edition varying from 10 to 20,000 copies. It was while the book was in this extensive demand that its publication was suspended, chiefly because the other avocations of the surviving author did not allow him the time necessary for its proper revision. He always intended, however, to resume the publication, when circumstances should favor, and the present work is the accomplishment of the long-cherished design. Among its prominent characteristics are the following:

1. The *Arrangement* is such that the Map, Questions on the Map, and Description of each country, are on the same page, or on pages directly opposite, enabling the pupil to refer readily from one to the other, without the inconvenience of two books, or even the necessity of turning the leaf.
2. The *Maps* are more numerous, and generally on a larger scale than in any other School Geography.
3. The *Exercises on the Map* are so framed as to present a *connected view* of the great features of each country.
4. The *Descriptions* are in a series of short paragraphs, written in concise style, and confined to the most interesting and characteristic matter.
5. The *correct Pronunciation* of difficult names is indicated by dividing into syllables, accenting, &c.
6. The *General and Comparative Views* at the end of the volume are on the plan first introduced by the author in 1820, and since adopted in many other School Geographies. They are regarded as well fitted to exercise and strengthen the judgment.
7. The *new art of Cerography* is applied for the first time to the illustration of a work of this kind, and enables the publishers to sell it at a very low price.

The whole work is the result of long and careful study, and is intended to impress upon the mind of the student such outlines of geography as will form the best foundation for farther and extensive acquisitions.