

In the following publication, the materials have been drawn from the latest and most authentic sources; and it has been the object of the Author to convey the information in a plain, familiar style, and to make such a selection as may interest and instruct the pupil.

The accounts of the several countries consist, in general, of two parts, distinguished by different kinds of type. The first, and perhaps the more important of these, is intended to assist the pupil in learning the relative situations of places; and is to be studied in connexion with maps. The second contains an outline of the natural and political geography of each country; and may either be studied along with the first, or may form a second course, perhaps in connexion with a repetition of the former. With the first three Sections, and with the General Views of the great divisions of the earth, the learner should be made accurately acquainted at the commencement; and the interesting and important subjects, treated of in the APPENDIX, should be studied as soon as the age of the pupil, or other circumstances, may render it advisable. It may also be advantageous, to enliven the study of the other parts, by intermixing with them a considerable portion of the lighter and more entertaining matter contained in the Notes.

In preparing the present edition for the press, the whole has been carefully revised, and various additions and improvements have been made. In compliance with the wish of the Publishers, and of several teachers, Questions for examination have been introduced, particularly on the more important parts of the Notes. These Questions—while some teachers will employ, in preference, those that may occur to themselves—will be serviceable to pupils in the preparation of their lessons; and it will be found to be a useful exercise for learners to extend the list, or to write out for themselves similar questions on the parts of the work, for which none are given. The Questions for exercise on the Maps are of a kind peculiarly useful; and it is easy to see how the number of these might be increased at pleasure by the teacher or the pupil.

*College, Belfast, Feb. 1, 1829.*