

PREFACE TO THE TWENTY-SECOND EDITION.

THIS book, when it first appeared in 1841, consisted of 568 pages of smaller size and larger type than those of later editions. It was favourably received, as it in some degree supplied a public want. In 1855, Mr. Joseph Haydn, the compiler, was compelled by failing health to relinquish his labours, and at the very earnest request of the Publisher, Mr. Edward Moxon, a member of the Royal Institution, the present Editor undertook the continuation of the work, and the superintendence of the SEVENTH EDITION, while passing through the press. This led eventually to his undertaking the reconstruction of the work, which has been gradually effected by revision and copious additions. The new features included Chronological Tables at the beginning of the volume, innumerable historical, literary, scientific, topographical, and geographical facts inserted in the body of the work, and a Dated Biographical Index. To make room for additions the size of the page has been enlarged, many articles have been condensed or printed in smaller type, and much useless matter expunged.

THE TWENTY-SECOND EDITION continues the general history of the world during the last three years, under the heads of the respective countries, the more important events being noticed in separate articles. Especial attention has been given to the affairs of the British Empire, political, ecclesiastical, social, commercial, and philanthropic. This edition contains 74 pages more than the last published in 1895.

The Editor has endeavoured to make the book resemble a dated Cyclopaedia, a digested summary of the various departments of human