

## PREFACE.

IN presenting to the Public the present volume, entitled "**THE GREAT LAKES, OR 'INLAND SEAS' OF AMERICA,**" embracing the Magnitude of the Lakes—Commerce of the Lakes—Trip through the Lakes—Route from Lake Superior to Lake Winnipeg—Tables of Distances, etc., together with a Description of Niagara Falls and the St. Lawrence River, the Compiler wishes to return his sincere thanks for the liberal patronage and the many kind favors received from those who have doubly assisted him, by contributing reliable and useful information in regard to the many interesting localities in which the Great Valley of the Lakes and of the St. Lawrence abounds, affording altogether many new and interesting facts of great importance to the Tourist, who may wish to visit the Inland Seas of America for health or pleasure; the tour being one of the most healthy, picturesque, and wonderful—when viewed as a whole, from Lake Winnipeg to Lake Superior, and thence to the Gulf of St. Lawrence—on the face of the globe.

In the arrangement and compilation of this work every attempt has been made to render the information it contains concise and truthful. The Magnitude and also the Commerce of the Lakes are themes of great interest, they now being whitened by a large fleet of sail-vessels, in addition to the swift steamers and propellers which plough the waters of these Great Lakes, transporting annually large numbers of passengers, and an immense amount of agricultural and mineral products, to and from the different ports.