

ANNOUNCEMENT.

How few realize that the State of Texas is larger than the German Empire or than Austro-Hungary, and that California is half as large again as Italy, or that Florida is larger than England and Wales. It has been stated on good authority that the whole quantity of cotton used in the world could be grown on 1,000 square miles, or less than one-fourteenth of the State of Texas. Belgium has 482 inhabitants to the square mile, and Great Britain 290, while the United States, exclusive of Alaska, have less than 14. Should the density of Great Britain ever be attained, there will be upwards of 1,000,000,000 Americans. The marvellous progress made since 1880 in the settlement of the new regions thrown open by railways completed since that date can hardly be realized. The population of Dakota has quadrupled in five years, and its wheat crop last year was 30,000,000 bushels, twice as great as the whole crop of Egypt. The growth of American cities seems no less astonishing than that of the States. New York has doubled her population in half the time that London has doubled hers (35 years); while Great Britain and Ireland expend annually upon education \$33,500,000, the United States expend \$93,000,000, which is more than is spent by the whole of Continental Europe. Already America makes one-fifth of the iron and one-fourth of the steel of the world, and is second only to Great Britain in steel. The cotton industries, also, of this country are increasing nearly three times as fast as those of the rest of the world. From 1860 to 1880 the consumption of cotton by our factories was increased by 140 per cent., while the consumption in Great Britain gained but 25 per cent. So, too, the American woolen industry has increased since 1860 six times as fast as that of Great Britain; the consumption of wool by our mills in 1880 being 320,000,000 pounds, against 338,000,000 pounds in the United Kingdom.

This work is arranged in the best and most convenient manner. Each great event in the progress of our country is sketched separately and complete in itself. The reader can pick it up at any moment, read a sketch, and lay it down until a more convenient time. The sketches of our great cities show their origin, development, and present importance; their great industries, manufacturing, and commercial achievements; their public institutions, rapid growth of population, etc., enabling the reader to form a correct opinion of each great city, its natural and acquired advantages, comparative growth, wealth, and characteristics. The work will be found to have a fascinating interest for all readers, young and old, and will be of inestimable value to every American and to those who would become familiar with the home of their adoption.