

**PRIMER OF THE  
INDUSTRIAL GEOGRAPHY  
OF THE UNITED STATES**

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Primer of the Industrial Geography of the United States by G. Phillips Bevan

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**G. PHILLIPS BEVAN**

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OF  
THE UNITED STATES

BY  
G. PHILLIPS BEVAN, F.G.S., F.S.S.  
ETC.



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## PREFACE

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A STRONG feeling has been growing up of late as to the advisability of embodying into our educational system some acquaintance with the industrial condition of the countries of the world, a knowledge of which is clearly of very great importance in these days of technical activity. The object of this series of Text-Books or Primers is to explain, in the simplest language, the resources and industries of each country, together with the physical and geographical causes that have led to their existence.

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## INDUSTRIAL GEOGRAPHY.

### THE UNITED STATES.

#### CHAPTER I.—MOUNTAIN RANGES, WATERWAYS, AND CLIMATE.

THE territory of the United States occupies a vast portion of the continent of North America, extending from the Atlantic Ocean on the east to the Pacific Ocean on the west, and from the chain of great lakes, to the north of which lies Canada, to the Gulf of Mexico on the south. The area of this vast country is more than  $3\frac{1}{2}$  million square miles; its greatest length being 2,650 miles, and its greatest breadth 1,600. The extent of the Atlantic coast line is 7,000 miles, it being indented by several inlets of the sea, such as the Chesapeake, Delaware, and Massachusetts bays, and Albemarle and Pamlico sounds, while the projections of the land seaward consist of Cape Cod, and a large proportion of the State of Florida, which acts as a huge bulwark between the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico. The coast line on this side is 3,400 miles, and on the Pacific side 3,700, as the latter coast is much more regular in its outline, presenting but very few inlets or projections.

The Bay of San Francisco is the largest of these, though even this is of no great size.

Like most of the natural dispositions of the United States, the mountain ranges are on a very grand scale, though they all belong to two or three well-defined systems. In the Eastern States the great system is that of the *Alleghany* or Appalachian range, which, under one name or another, runs north-east to south-west through three-fourths of the whole country; in some parts consisting of one chain, in others of several parallel chains, with beautiful valleys between. In the extreme north-eastern State, that of Maine, the range is known as the Maine Highlands, of which the highest point is Mount Katahdin, 3,585 feet. In New Hampshire they form the White Mountains, noted for their grand scenery, Mount Washington rising to 6,234 feet, and Mount Adams to 5,960, while in the adjoining State of Vermont they are called the Green Mountains. To the south, in the State of New York, they are known as the Adirondacks (highest point, Mount Marcy, 5,402 feet), and the Catskill Mountains. South of Pennsylvania, where are the Blue Mountains, the Tuscarora Hills and other smaller ranges, commence the Alleghanies proper, which extend for some 1,300 miles, with an average breadth of 70 miles. In Virginia State the principal heights are those of the Blue Ridge, the most lofty peak of the whole range being Mount Clingman, 6,941 feet, in North Carolina, though Mount Mitchell is not far short of it at 6,732 feet. The Alleghanies finally die out in Alabama.

The next large system, that of the *Rocky Mountains*,