THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF GREAT BRITAIN ADMINISTERED BY THE RIGHT HONORABLE HENRY JOHN VISCOUNT PALMERSTON

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The Foreign Affairs of Great Britain Administered by the Right Honorable Henry John Viscount Palmerston by William Cargill

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WILLIAM CARGILL

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GREAT BRITAIN.



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ADMINISTERED BY

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HENRY JOHN VISCOUNT PALMERSTON.

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PREFACE.

The Author of the following pages has undertaken the difficult task of endeavouring to lay before his fellow-countrymen a condensed History of the chief of those events which constitute the Annals of the times in which we live-events wherein are enfolded the future Destinies of our Landwhich enwrap the future Destinies of the World! He has essayed to regard, as from a neutral spot, the progress of his Country in that Journey which so many mighty Empires have made in their turn-to examine, as with the mind of another Age, those influences which are urging her in the race; -he has looked at the Road by which she has arrived at what she is, and has desired to understand the Direction in which she tends. He conceives that the events he has described and the disasters he has laid bare, contain within themselves the evidences of the source whence they have sprung; for they are a picture of that mental state which alone is a Nation's History. The MIND OF A PEOPLE, and not the Incidents which spring out of its action, is the History of a Nation-but the Incidents which are the result of men's thoughts are the only Mirror by which we can exhibit to the inhabitants of another Region, or to our descendants in another age, that Mental Grandeur by which Empires have risen-that Mental Sinking which has heralded their wreck. If the National Mind of a People be sunken, to say that they