

**A CENTENNIAL TOUR  
IN THE UNITED STATES  
AND CANADA**

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A Centennial Tour in the United States and Canada by Joseph Wright

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**JOSEPH WRIGHT**

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IN THE

UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

BY

JOSEPH WRIGHT,

MACCLESFIELD.

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## INTRODUCTORY.

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During the autumn of last year (1876), famed as the Centenary of American independence, it was the good fortune of the writer to be enabled to avail himself of a cordial invitation to visit Paterson, the great silk town of America, and thence to extend his observations to many of the principal cities of the United States and Canada, and also to include a visit to the International Exhibition at Philadelphia, with which the Americans fitly celebrated their proud anniversary. The visit occupied about three months, and the places visited included New York, Brooklyn and Paterson; Niagara, Buffalo, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, and the Montmorency Falls; Portland (Maine), Boston (Massachusetts); the beautiful Hudson River and the valley of the Catskill mountains; Philadelphia and the Centennial Exhibition; Baltimore, Washington, Pittsburg and the Great Western city of Chicago; returning thence by Cleveland and Meadville to the industrial and thriving silk towns of South Manchester and Hartford, Connecticut. The distance travelled by rail and river was probably over 5,000 miles.

At the solicitation of many friends, the writer has consented to place his observations on record for the perusal of his fellow-townsmen. He does so, not with any pretension to literary achievement, or with any claim to novelty or originality, but with a desire that any who are interested may participate in the information derivable from a visit to that great and interesting country—the adopted home of so many sturdy Englishmen, and now the proud rival of the most flourishing European States. Privileged to enjoy the companionship of his brother-in-law, Mr. William Ryle of Paterson, during the greater portion of the journey, the writer's Centennial Tour was rendered additionally pleasant and instructive; and while speaking for himself the writer has also ventured to be the narrator for his esteemed fellow-traveller, without however desiring to pledge him, in the opinion of the reader, to any views expressed on controverted matters. But on many points it is difficult for observant and intelligent Englishmen to entertain divergent views with reference to America. They must all combine