

**LETTERS FROM ABROAD
TO KINDRED AT HOME; IN
TWO VOLUMES: VOL. I**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649630974

Letters from Abroad to Kindred at Home; In Two Volumes: Vol. I by Catharine Maria Sedgwick

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

CATHARINE MARIA SEDGWICK

**LETTERS FROM ABROAD
TO KINDRED AT HOME; IN
TWO VOLUMES: VOL. I**

NEW AND IMPORTANT WORKS,
RECENTLY PUBLISHED BY
HARPER & BROTHERS,
AND FOR SALE BY THE PRINCIPAL BOOKSELLERS THROUGHOUT
THE UNITED STATES.

LETTERS FROM ABROAD TO KINDRED AT HOME.
By Miss C. M. Sedgwick. 2 vols. 12mo.

TRAVELS IN THE UNITED STATES.
By J. S. Buckingham, Esq. With numerous illustrative
wood Engravings and a Portrait of the Author.
In two vols. 8vo.

MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF THE JAPANESE
IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.
From the Accounts of recent Dutch Residents in Japan, and from
the German work of DR. PH. FR. Von Siebold. 18mo.

RUINS OF ANCIENT CITIES.
With General and Particular Accounts of their Rise, Fall, and
Present Condition. By Charles Bucke. 2 vols. 16mo.

INCIDENTS OF TRAVEL IN CENTRAL
AMERICA, CULAPAN, AND YUCATAN.
By John L. Stephens, Esq. In 2 vols. 8vo. With 79 Engravings.

AN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE ACCOUNT OF
ICELAND, GREENLAND, AND THE
FAROE ISLANDS.

THE MARTYRS OF SCIENCE;
Or, Lives of Galileo, Tycho Brahe, and Kepler.
By Sir David Brewster.

Books published by Harper & Brothers.

COUNSELS TO YOUNG MEN
On the Formation of Character, and the Principles which
lead to Success and Happiness in Life.
By Eliphalet Nott, D.D.

THE NESTORIANS;
Or, the Lost Tribes. By Dr. Grant. 12mo.

**INTRODUCTION TO THE LITERARY
HISTORY OF EUROPE,**
In the 15th, 16th, and 17th Centuries. By Henry Hallam, F.R.A.S.
2 vols. 8vo.

A CLASSICAL DICTIONARY.
Containing an Account of the Principal Proper Names mentioned
in Ancient Authors. By Charles Anthon, LL.D.
Royal 8vo.

GORSE DE LEON;
— Or, the Brigand. A Novel. By G. P. R. James, Esq.
2 vols. 12mo.

On the Power, Wisdom, and Goodness of God,
As manifested in the Adaptation of External Nature to
the Moral and Intellectual Character of Man.
By the Rev. Thomas Chalmers, D.D.

LIVES OF JOHN JAY AND ALEXANDER HAMILTON.
By James Renwick, LL.D. Portrait.

Life of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry.
By Alexander Slidell Mackenzie.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF HISTORIO.
By George Campbell, D.D., F.R.S. 8vo.

LETTERS FROM ABROAD

TO

KINDRED AT HOME.

"Well, John, I think we must own that God Almighty had a hand in making other countries besides ours."—*The Brothers.*

BY THE AUTHOR OF

"HOPE LESLIE," "POOR RICH MAN AND THE RICH POOR MAN,"
"LIVE AND LET LIVE," &c., &c.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

NEW-YORK:

HARPER & BROTHERS, 82 CLIFF-STREET.

1841.

Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year 1841, by
HARPER & BROTHERS,
In the Clerk's Office of the Southern District of New-York

P R E F A C E.

AN apology for a book implies that the public are obliged to read it; an obligation that would reverse the order of nature—transfer the power from the strong to the weak. But, unfortunately for them, there is a portion of the public who are, in a certain sense, obliged to read a book—the kind friends of the author—and among these—I say it gratefully, not boastfully—I have the happiness to number many of my countrymen personally unknown to me. Of *my friends*, then, I ask indulgence for the following pages. They are published rather with deference to the wishes of others than from any false estimate of their worth. Our tour was made under circumstances which forbade any divergence from the highway of all the travelling world, and, consequently, we passed over a field so thoroughly reaped that not an ear, scarcely a kernel, remains for the gleaner. In addition to this, and to painful anxieties and responsibilities that accompanied us at every step, we were followed by intelligence of deep domestic calamity. On this subject I need not enlarge; the

disqualifying influence of these circumstances will be comprehended without my opening the sanctuary of private griefs.

I was aware that our stayers-at-home had already something too much of churches, statues, and pictures, and yet that they cannot well imagine how much they make up the existence of tourists in the Old World. I have sedulously avoided this rock, and must trust for any little interest my book may possess to the honesty with which I have recorded my impressions, and to the fresh aspect of familiar things to the eye of a denizen of the New World. The fragmentary state in which my letters appear is owing to my fear of wearying readers less interested than my own family by prolonged details or prosiog reflections, or disgusting them with the egotism of personal experience.

One word to my English reader, rather of explanation than apology, which I trust the case does not require. I have unscrupulously mentioned the name of such distinguished English people as it was my good fortune to see. I could have screened myself from reproach by giving merely their initials; but, as they are too well known for this device to

afford them any shelter, it seemed to me but a paltry affectation of delicacy. I might plead the authority of English travellers in the United States; but if wrong, no authority justifies it; and if right, it needs none. I have confined my notices strictly to public characters—to gallery portraits; for so such persons as Mr. Rogers, and even that most refined and delicate of gentlewomen, Miss Joanna Baillie, may be strictly called, after the full exhibitions in Moore's *Life of Byron* and Lockhart's *Life of Scott*. I have violated no confidence, for none was reposed in me. My opportunities of social intercourse were few and brief; and I should have omitted these slight records of them, but for the wish to transmit to my friends at home my delightful impressions of those to whom we all owe many happy hours. Perhaps my anxiety is superfluous; the King of Ashantee was anxious to know what the English people said of him, but I never heard that the English people cared to know what the King of Ashantee said of them!