

I R E L A N D :

Historical and Statistical.

BY

GEORGE LEWIS SMYTH.

VOL. I.

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TO

NICHOLAS MAHER, ESQ., M.P.,
TURTULLA, TIPPERARY.

MY DEAR MAHER,

It affords me peculiar pleasure to dedicate to you this account of the past and present state of our country.

If I were to recapitulate here all the motives which have led me to prefix your name to these pages, I should trespass upon the reserve of private friendship. There are public grounds, however, on which the selection becomes so appropriate, that I may be fairly allowed to mention some of them. As a constant resident in the country—a practical agriculturalist—a large landed proprietor—and one of the representatives in Parliament of an extensive, populous, and wealthy county,—you take, I know, a deep interest in the subject itself, and will regard, I am sure, with indulgence, this attempt to make its importance more generally understood.

There are, it is true, opinions expressed and views taken in this Work, which neither you, nor a large number of our fellow countrymen, at present coincide in. I am not, however, the less disposed, on that account, to place it in your hands or theirs. I have studied to be impartial, and spoken deliberate convictions; and I rely with confidence upon the candour

DEDICATION.

and justice of all parties, for an honest appreciation of my intentions in offering this humble contribution to the cause we have all at heart—the good of Ireland.

I am, my dear Maher,

Ever truly and sincerely yours,

GEO. LEWIS SMYTH.

*Bridge Street, Westminster,
April, 1844.*

MAP OF
I R E L A N D ,
Shewing the Lines of Railway
Projected by
PRIVATE ENTERPRISE .
IN
1836 .

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