

PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS.

It is of importance that neighbouring Nations should be acquainted with each other, that they may form a just estimate of one another's *friendship*, or *enmity*; and, for this purpose they should see, as much as possible, with their own eyes; not through the medium of partial, or interested, Observers; by whose wilful, or designing misrepresentations, Governments are often led into fatal errors, in estimating the temper, or the resources of each other.

Who can suppose that if England—the self-styled *Mistress of the Ocean*, had not been deceived by the disparaging Narratives of superficial Travellers (happy in the gratification of National prejudice, at the expense of truth) she would have inconsiderately provoked an unnecessary struggle, in which her gallant Navy for-