## PREFACE.

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AFTER my return from Newfoundland, in the year 1791, I was curious to look back into what had been done, in former times, on the fubject upon which I had myself been just employed. I accordingly looked over the Newfoundland Entries, and the Newfoundland Bundles, among the books which belonged to the late board of trade; and I then pursued the subject through the Registers of the present committee of council for trade and plantations.

I was very much struck with the matter and reflections furnished by this research; and I wished that the use-