

HISTORY OF OUR OWN TIMES.

By the Author of

"THE COURT AND TIMES OF FREDERICK THE GREAT."

Handsomely printed in small 8vo.

It may be affirmed, without fear of contradiction, that if we were to search through the whole range of history, we should not find in any period of equal duration so many astounding events as have crowded together in the compass of the last half-century, to which the denomination **OUR TIMES** is here applied.

The history of those times will of course exhibit all the extraordinary scenes of the French Revolution, with which this period opened; and detail the events of the long series of wars consequent on that revolution in all parts of the globe, till the downfall of Napoleon restored peace to the world. The emancipation of the Spanish-American colonies; the deliverance of Greece from Turkish thralldom; the daring but unfortunate insurrection of the Poles; the transfer of the crown of France to a new branch of the house of Bourbon; the foundation of the kingdom of Belgium; and the cruel civil wars in the two divisions of the Spanish Peninsula, form more recent features in this great moving drama. It is scarcely necessary to add that the means by which the power and prosperity of the British empire have meanwhile been gradually extended and consolidated will claim the particular attention of the historian. In short, it will be his aim to furnish, in a popular form, a faithful and impartial record of every event of public importance which has taken place during the last fifty years.

On the utility of such a history it were superfluous to insist. To the statesman, the legislator, the scholar, the public writer, it must be a book of every-day reference; to the library of every well-informed person it will be absolutely indispensable: the young will turn to it for instruction, the old to refresh their memory respecting scenes which they have witnessed, or in which perchance they have even been actors.

HISTORY OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS;

FROM

THE CONVENTION-PARLIAMENT OF 1688-9,

TO

THE PASSING OF THE REFORM BILL IN 1832.

BY

WM. CHARLES TOWNSEND, ESQ., M.A.

RECORDER OF MACCLESFIELD.

In 8vo.

This work is intended to give a popular History of the Commons' House of Parliament, and will comprehend the lives of the Speakers, of the Lawyers, Orators, and Statesmen, who have been most distinguished in its annals; a review of the Privileges once enjoyed by Members, and their hard-won right to personal and deliberate freedom; a record of the vindictive powers exercised by the House over their own body and strangers; a narrative of the internal economy of St. Stephen's Chapel; the changes in the habits, manners, and character of the constituency—in the decorum and method of proceedings—in the tone and temper of discussion, and in the progress of intelligence and refinement. It is proposed to unlock the store of light reading, the fund of interest and amusement, which has been concealed from the general gaze in the voluminous Journals, State Trials, Parliamentary Debates, Precedents of Hatsell, and contemporary memoirs and pamphlets. The first volume includes the period from the abdication of James II. to the death of George I., characterized by "Master Spirits," critical events, and stirring debate; a monument, however imperfect, to the memory of those patriotic legislators who framed the Bill of Rights—conquered France in her height of pride—established the Union with Scotland—secured the Protestant faith by the Act of Settlement, and with the Septennial Act confirmed the independence of the representatives of the people.

AUT

VO

Voy
and inst
Drake
World,
circumn
nautical
sive info
valuable
voyages
with con
are desi
making
intellige
public,
of her

The
accomp
quitted
was suc
the au
crossed
clusion
necessa
Liberta
for the
Port-
Point
position
Cook a