

THE
WITNESS OF TRUTH.

Vol. I.]

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PREFACE AND PROSPECTUS.

AGREEABLY to the promises of a prospectus issued a few weeks since, *The Witness of Truth* commences its testimony. In what manner this testimony may be received in all the courts and before all the judgment-seats where the verdict may be given, is yet a secret, not more easily read and interpreted than other secrets connected with the mystery of futurity. Time alone will declare, and experience, the great instructor, evince, whether our veracity be questioned or acknowledged, and whether our words shall be rejected or received, heard or spurned, honored or hated.

Of one thing we are assured. *A severer ordeal does not await us than that through which others have passed in testifying the same things.* In no age of the world has the Lord's cause been popular: among no people have the people of God, vouching for the truth, been well received. Persecution has been their portion: martyrs their companions and comforters, Abel was slain; Joseph was enslaved; Moses was slandered and withstood; Jeremiah was imprisoned; Jesus was crucified; Paul, Peter, and James were martyred: and since these illustrious examples, a host of heavenly witnesses have also been favoured with the privilege of being doomed to the like noble suffering. Human nature is no better now than anciently; and therefore we anticipate nothing better as our living inheritance than what is recorded in the history of the faithful since the world began.

As a standing declaration of the intentions of this periodical work, and as a preventative of misapprehension and misinterpretation, a reprint of a part of the prospectus, showing the intentions of the present undertaking, is here presented:—

Our designs in the establishment of this work, are,

1st. To present some of the evidences of the authority and divinity of the holy scriptures:—to deliver the divine book, from the cavils, doubts, and scorn of infidels.