

PREFACE.

THE memorable Campaigns of 1812, 1813, and 1814, are, considering every circumstance, unequalled in the annals of the world. Europe had never seen war conducted on such an extensive scale, with such immense means, nor directed with greater talents. In laying before the World, a Narrative of these memorable occurrences, I am deeply sensible of my own inability, to do the subject the justice which it merits. I have therefore, to throw myself upon the indulgence of a generous Public; and hope, that for the sake of the subject, the reader will in some degree overlook the faults of the Author. To literary abilities I lay no claim; of the praise due to these I have no expectations. As the present Work is the first, so it is more than probable, that it will be the last subject of the kind in which I can occupy my time, or employ my pen. The indulgence with which the public received many detached pieces upon the subject now before them, as these were given at different times, through the medium of the respectable Public journals of this place; and the earnest solicitations of some private friends, emboldened me to lay before it, in an enlarged and connected form, the results of a continued series of notes and observations, which I had kept from time to time, and made upon these memorable occurrences. With what success I have acquitted myself, the public will now judge; and should the reader receive either instruction or information from this work, or should it be of the smallest service, in shewing my countrymen the superior security and happiness of their native land, and excellence of the government under which they live, I shall think my labour well bestowed, and amply rewarded.

The plan I have adopted, is rather novel. The labour it has occasioned was great. In many pages, there is scarcely a