

TO THE READER.



THE Reader who condescends to peruse the following pages, is respectfully requested not to anticipate that in such compilation he will find the classic elegance of a distinguished education, or the finished explanation of refined philosophy ; but he may rest assured, the title of the Travels, or narrative truth shall be the **POLE-STAR** of such statements ; and though numerous have been the publications on the same subject, yet unawed by precedent, and the Author an unlettered Adventurer, the observations fearlessly contained shall defy contradiction.-- I am not meandering towards **MOUNT PARNASSUS**, but have traversed **COLUMBIA'S REGION** ; and if my remarks, rude and simple as they may appear, serve as a preventive or beacon, in the cause of emigration, I solemnly declare my motive will be obtained, and highest ambition fully gratified.

C. H. WILSON.