

TO THE READER.

IF you are not a professed INFIDEL, you will feel somewhat interested in the contents of the following pages ; unless you are one of those professed christians who have received your religion, not from the Scriptures of truth, but from the fashion of the place where you reside, or because it is the custom of the country. If this is the case, you would have equally embraced the religion of *Mahomed*, had you been born in Turkey ; you are therefore a christian, not by *choice* but by *chance* ; not by reason, but by a *form* and *name* alone, and consequently the fragments collected in this pamphlet will appear to you as a matter of more curiosity. *But we HOPE better things of you ; and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak.* I trust that you are one whom GOD has called by his GRACE ; and that you are anxiously concerned to know the "*good old way*" that you may walk therein. You read in God's word that there is but "*One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism,*" and perhaps you have been grieved to find, as your knowledge of the world has increased, that so many *divisions* should exist among the professed subjects of the Redeemer's Kingdom ; but being accustomed to hear your *Minister*, branding every persuasion, but his own, with enthusiasm, bigotry and what not ; and not having the means of comparing the sentiments of one *sect* with another, and *each* with the word of God, you have concluded to hold fast that which you first received, be it right or wrong :—if so, you are the *very person* for whose sake the following sheets were committed to the *press*. Remember, therefore, that your Lord and Saviour, in the days of his humiliation, upbraided the *zealous* professors of that age, for having made void the commands of God, (the religion of the *Bible*) by their traditions, (the doctrines of men) and that you will be equally culpable, should you embrace or retain any