
A

SKETCH OF THE LIFE

OF

J. P. BRISSOT.

By the Editor.

HE was born at the village of Ouarville, near Chatres, in Orennois, on the 14th of January, 1754. His father was what the French called a *Traiteur*; that is, keeper of an eating house or an ordinary. He was intended for the profession of the law, and was articled to an attorney for that purpose. But he grew disgusted with the chicane and turpitude he was daily obliged to witness, and therefore, after the five years of the articleship were expired, he left Chatres and went to Paris.

An accident one night at the theatre at Paris placed him in the company of an English gentleman. They became intimate, and from this gentleman he obtained some knowledge of the English language; which he afterwards improved by a residence in London.

He had received a regular classical education, and acquired, by strict application, a tolerable knowledge of the German, Italian, and Spanish languages, sufficient to consult the authors who have written in those languages. On his arrival at Paris, his first