

TO THE READER.

observed in their wars with us, they ought to have full credit. For the full amount of all the patriotic motives by which these unfortunate people were actuated in their bloody conflicts, they deserve our sincerest commiseration.

The wars of these people, are not to be regarded as wholly the offspring of a savage thirst for blood. They fought for their native country. They engaged in the terrible war of 1763, with a view to recover from the possession of the white people, the whole of the western settlements.

Their continuance of the war, after the conclusion of our revolutionary contest, had for its object the preservation of as much of their country, as they then had in possession.

On the part of the most intelligent of the Indian chiefs, they fought from a motive of revenge and with a valor inspired by desperation. They foresaw the loss of their country and the downfall of their people, and therefore resolved on vengeance for the past, and the future wrongs to be inflicted on them.

There is yet another reason for the work under consideration. The present generation are witnesses of both the savage and civilized state of mankind. Both extremes are under our inspection. To future generations, the former will exist only in history. The Indian nations are now a subjugated people, and every feature of their former state of society must soon pass away. They will exist only through the medium of their admixtures with the white people. Such has been the fate of many nations. Where are now the Assyrians, Chaldeans, & Romans? They no longer exist; and yet the English, French and