

P R E F A C E.

friends, who have afforded assistance of every kind in this undertaking, which I shall entitle "A General Synopsis of Birds;" and is meant to contain every thing which its author could gather on the subject to this day; wherein he has aimed at such conciseness as may be consistent with affording a clear distinction between one species and another; in which attempt, it is hoped, he has not totally missed his intention. All he wishes, therefore, is, that it may be received with candour, till somewhat better shall appear, and a more able pen take up the subject.

Dartford,
Jan. 1, 1781.

JOHN LATHAM.

B I R D S.