

PREFACE.

THE French Tongue being confessedly an essential Part of a liberal Education, every attempt to render the Study less painful, and the Attainment of that fashionable Language more expeditious, cannot but meet with Encouragement from the judicious Part of the Public.

Dialogues have, at several Times, been published designedly for the Use of Schools; but it must be acknowledged that they are, for the most Part, injudiciously collected, containing at the very Beginning idiomatical Expressions, which, far from forwarding the Student in his Pursuits, serve only to perplex his Understanding. In the following Sheets Care has been taken to lead him gradually; and the Vocabularies suitable to, and containing almost all the Words of each succeeding Dialogue, must of Course greatly help his Memory.

The Dialogues, as well as the Plan of the whole Work, are entirely new; and I doubt not but they may be improved, and, if rightly pursued, will render this Undertaking not only the most useful, but likewise the first Book to be put into the Hands of all those who learn the French Language.

Conciseness, Ease and Perspicuity, ought to be aimed at in all elementary Performances; how far I have succeeded in these Particulars, is left to the Determination of candid and impartial Judges.

N. B. :::: The Words of the Vocabularies, to make Sense in some Places, are generally to be asked from the Left to the Right, which a Master will easily perceive.