

The Introduction

Earth, that none of his wondrous works might remain obscure or unobserved to those for whose use and pleasure they were made; by which means the people in sundry Tribes, wandering from place to place, incroaching by degrees, as men began to multiply, planted themselves in the most advantageous Countries, every one striving for the best: however, through Wars, Pestilence, Inundations, and other strange Revolutions and Accidents, it is past all peradventure, that the bad as well as the good found possessors, as at this day. Though, Reader, I shall not trouble you in this place, with entering upon the original Peopling of Kingdoms and Countries, as to particulars; but let you know that my care has been to present you with Geographical and Historical Description of the World, as it formerly stood, and at present stands: and though upon first thought it may seem strange, that in so small a Volume so large a one can be contained, yet upon perusal you will find that nothing material is omitted, that can be required to render satisfaction upon this occasion: insomuch, that by well considering this Work, a mean Capacity may suddenly know how the Worlds mighty Fabrick is disposed, and soon become acquainted with every Country under Heaven, enough to render him capable.