

PREFACE.

THE events of the late war have already exercised the pens of numerous writers, and certainly there could not be a more fruitful subject. The author has attempted a concise narrative of the principal occurrences, freed from voluminous and unnecessary naval and military details. The greater part of the works already published, are in too expensive a shape and bulk for general circulation, or for the use of schools. It is not every petty skirmish, or the unintelligible details of naval affairs, which is suited to the youthful mind: it is only from those important actions which shed honor on our country, that instruction can be derived.

What volume so favorable to the formation of the youthful mind, as that which asserts the