
ADVERTISEMENT.

WHILE the Editor contemplated this undertaking *at a distance*, he perceived difficulties; but they were difficulties of such a sort, as only tended to rouse the mind, and make it act with greater energy and vigour: As the time of publication drew nearer, however, difficulties of another sort occurred, which have only excited anxiety and perplexing doubts, that tend to enervate and to freeze the mental faculties. The many obliging letters he has received from persons of distinguished eminence in all quarters, while they claim his most grateful acknowledgments to their respective writers, have made a deep and melancholy impression on his mind, which it will be difficult to efface: for though he is willing to ascribe no small share of the obliging things that there occur, to that complimentary politeness every one thinks it necessary to assume on occasions of this sort; yet their general tenor is so strong and so uniform, as to leave him no room to doubt that the public hath, in general, formed an estimate of his abilities infinitely more favourable than they deserve. Conscious as he himself is, that the only claim he can justly lay