

TO THE READER.



The story of Wallace is a theme which, without presumption, can only be approached in the pure spirit of respectful awe. The inherent greatness and force of character of the man may be justly inferred from the hatred and dread with which his bold, daring, inspired Edward the First, confessedly the most accomplished warrior that ever sat on the English throne.

The grandeur of that ambition which desired only his country's freedom, the devotion of a whole life to that single purpose, under circumstances the most discouraging, and the sublime spectacle of his