



PREFACE.

THE following pages have been written, with the hope, that they may be the means of awakening in the minds of the young a deeper interest in the study of that part of the sacred volume from which they have been principally culled. In the study of profane history there is danger that the great First Cause be overlooked in the multitude of secondary causes, which are pressed on the attention. In sacred history it is far otherwise. In it a victory is not ascribed to the skill of a Commander, or to the bravery of his men ; but to the favour of God. In like manner a nation's prosperity is not attributed to its industries or its commerce, but to His blessing. The historical as well as all other parts of the Scriptures thus plainly teach that God is Lord over all ; and that though men act according to their pleasure, they are either His agents or His instruments, and forward His designs.

In presenting this little Work to the Public the writer craves indulgence, as it has been