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P R E F A C E.

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THE wishes of friends,—the political circumstances of the moment,—and, as I have been made to believe, the public expectation, have induced me to add the following Voyages to those which have already been published, to improve the navigation and extend the commerce of the British Empire.—I do not pretend to be the rival,—but rather consider myself an humble follower of those eminent navigators whose reputation is become a part of the national fame; and though I may be permitted, as it were, to envy their superior talents and advantages, I most sincerely add my feeble testimony to that merit, which has ranked them among the illustrious names of my country.

Indeed I feel it a duty I owe myself, as well as to moderate the sanguine expectation which may have arisen respecting the history