

T O T H E
R E A D E R.

THE following Essay was compos'd on board his Majesty's Ship the *Somerset*, on her Passage Home from *Quebec*, by one who was a Volunteer in that glorious Expedition, and Spectator of every Scene he hath attempted to describe; how much inferior to the Task, every discerning Reader, in the Perusal of a few Lines, will with Ease discover; and readily trace the Defects and Irregularities of a Muse, unacquainted with the difficult Paths of *Parnassus*: but to the severer Critic, how will the Author (rash and presumptuous) stand excus'd? Harshness of Style, Excess and Deficiencies in his Numbers, I would, says he, readily overlook; but grant me Patience! is this Vanity, this Plagiarism, to be forgiven? almost a whole Line from *Milton*;---and as I am alive, see here! another from *Thomson*; why the *Campaign* itself, though with some Degree of Modesty, he would