

INTRODUCTION.

THE Author of the following Letters having been an early witness to the settlement of Kentucky, had frequently suggested to me the importance of that rising country. But I confess that, with every deference to his judgment, I was not aware how deservedly it had been estimated as of the utmost consequence. A momentous æra, during several years of which the eyes of the whole world were attentively fixed upon Europe, had so entirely occupied my mind, that, regardless of occurrences in the remote parts of America, I felt no inconsiderable astonishment at finding that Kentucky was to be admitted as a separate State into the federal government.