

PREFACE.

Although divers of these notes, especially the concluding ones, beginning after Addenda, page 44, and headed Miscellaneous Articles, to which the reader is particularly directed, may appear to him new and startling, he is not, on that account, to receive them cavalierly; for how many events happen in his own country, let alone any other, of which history makes no mention, though familiar to the million; either that they are too numerous, or may have escaped observation. And notwithstanding that reading unquestionably furnishes us with a great variety of facts, still they can hardly be called complete, until travel has contributed those previously unknown. Finally, having taken your animadversions into serious consideration, so unequivocally shown by my present production, and endeavoured to avoid the excesses complained of, you have now an opportunity of declaring, whether the errors of my compeers may have influenced your judgment, or that the objections which you raise are indeed sincere.