## PREFACE.

v

un acceptable present. Every one whose heart contains a spark of patriotism, whose bosom cherishes that love of country inherent in generous minds, must survey, with a sentiment of mingled pride and pleasure, the numerous and splendid triumphs of Britain, on what may be justly termed her native element. With admiration he will behold the hardy seaman, cool and collected amid the shock of embattled navies, hurling sweeping destruction on the foe; with emotion he will see him, at the hazard of life, giving relief to a distressed enemy whelmed beneath the foaming surge; and when success has crowned the exertions of his valour and the prudence of his measures, he will view him with edification, devoutly ascribing the glory to the hand of Omnipotence. While such shall be the character of the British seamen, will Britain wield, we trust, unrivalled, the sceptre of the ocean; so long will she command the fear and respect of the rest of the world, and we may exultingly exclaim with the poet-

" Britain's best Bulwarks, are her wooden walls !"

ounroes, now prethan that s, a ney, east ities nost

Iced.

per-

most

ved.

and

tion

the

and

hich

h the

the

ated

the

d in

and

hat ove

a 3