## PREAMBLE.

Some reason perhaps ought to be assigned for my troubling the public with the following narrative. I shall satisfy those who may be of that opinion both with respect to it and the other writings contained in this volume. The truth is this: the Journal had lain for many years in a chest among other papers, unseen either by myself or my friends. But on a late unsuccessful event, I thought that, for the benefit of my children, I ought to attempt to repair the injury I had done them by my speculations, and as every one who knew the