

## PREFACE.

---

BEFORE undertaking this work, the Compiler was aware that many difficulties would present themselves, and in this he has not been deceived; but he did not anticipate any hesitation on the part of the citizens to support an enterprize which, if successfully carried out, will aid in establishing this city as a place worthy the name which its rapid growth and progress has acquired; neither did he expect that any business men would withhold their advertising support, but would cheerfully contribute towards making the DIRECTORY an evidence of the stability, wealth and enterprise of which London has reason to be proud. Many, however, have withheld their support, either by subscribing for the book or advertising in it; and although some, who stubbornly refused to do either, have since "seen the error of their ways," and have done both; yet the absence of considerable advertising patronage, which ought to have been given, will account, in some measure, for the delay in publication; for being anxious to obtain the approval and support of the citizens in general, and of the advertising public in particular, I have not been remiss in calling to solicit their patronage; and, while I am thankful for the encouragement which has been given, I must at the same time apologise to those whom I may have offended by frequent asking, assuring them that my solicitations were intended rather for their benefit than my own; and the zeal of the Canvasser, may be excused by the perseverance of the Compiler, to render the result of his labors more acceptable and more complete, save him from the charge of apathy or neglect — which, I trust, is unmerited — and shield his non-supporters from the odium of having discountenanced, and refused to support, the first DIRECTORY published in and for the city of London.