

PREFACE.

THE excellence of the Roads through every part of Great Britain has, within a few years, rendered the Traveller an easy task; and the publication of so many Tours has contributed to extend our local knowledge, not only by describing the situation of places, and their distances from each other, but by pointing out whatever is worthy of observation, either in Nature or in Art.

There yet, however, seemed to be wanting a Compendium of Topography; an Itinerary, comprehending as well what is amusing and instructive, as what is necessary and useful.

The names of Cities, Towns, and principal Seats, together with the respective distances from each, have been often presented to the Public; but the design of the present Compilation is to convey, in a concise manner, some knowledge of the ancient and present state of particular places through which the Traveller passes, without entering into dry details or tedious digressions.

Besides the result of his own observations, the Compiler has referred to the Works of several popular Writers, from which many passages have been extracted, as might contribute, within such narrow limits, to illustrate the Topography, or to interest the Traveller.