PREFACE.

his country with the fruit of his researches; and it would be well if the example set by this gentleman would excite an emulation among others of our fellow-citizens, whose property and natural resources, might, united, implant on our soil that love and admiration of the fine arts, which would soon rescue us from the imputation of neglecting whatever can adorn and elevate human industry and genius; particularly in

“That art, where most magnificent appears
“The little builder, man———.”*

That genius is indigenous in this western soil, no one with propriety can deny; but scarce doth it rear its head above the surface of the ground, when it is nipped by the cold frost of neglect. Like the modest violet, it often blooms unseen in the wild; and only requires the discerning eye and the kind hand of patronage to lift its glories to the day. The petty feuds of party; the jealousies and intrigues of the wealthy; and the baleful influence of unworthy ambition, are

*“Thomson’s Liberty.”