

## DEDICATION.

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WERE I to publish the history of a monarch who, not merely satisfied with attending to the prosperity of his kingdom, and making his people happy, is likewise desirous of restoring to less fortunate sovereigns those dominions of which they have been unjustly deprived; or that of a young prince who, scarcely mounted on his throne, appears to possess the same sentiments, and occupies himself in pursuing the same object; I should undoubtedly offer the tribute of my labours to his Britannic Majesty, or the Emperor of Russia: but being about to present to the Reader the annals of an order the naval combats of which make so striking a figure in every page of this History, I do not hesitate a moment in dedicating it to

### THE BRITISH NAVY,

which has produced so many celebrated heroes, whose brilliant exploits may be said to rival even those of ancient chivalry.

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