

A

HISTORICAL SKETCHES

OF

S T A T E S M E N

WHO FLOURISHED IN

THE TIME OF GEORGE III.

BY

HENRY, LORD BROUGHAM, F.R.S.,

MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FRANCE, AND OF
THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF NAPLES.

VOL. I.

LONDON AND GLASGOW:
RICHARD GRIFFIN AND COMPANY,

PUBLISHERS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.

1858.

A

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION,	1
GEORGE III.,	9
LORD CHATHAM,	20
LORD NORTH,	49
LETTERS OF GEORGE III. TO LORD NORTH,	67
LORD LOUGHBOROUGH,	167
LORD THURLOW,	183
LORD MANSFIELD,	194
LORD CHIEF JUSTICE GIBBS,	215
SIR WILLIAM GRANT,	225
MR. BURKE,	231
MR. FOX,	262
MR. PITT,	277
MR. SHERIDAN,	291
MR. WINDHAM,	299
MR. DUNDAS,	306
MR. ERSKINE,	314
MR. PERCEVAL,	323
LORD GRENVILLE,	330
MR. GRATTAN,	335
MR. WILBERFORCE,	343

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
MR. CANNING,	350
SIR SAMUEL ROMILLY,	363
EFFECTS OF PARTY,	370
JOHN, FOURTH DUKE OF BEDFORD,	384
EARL CAMDEN,	404
JOHN WILKES—DEMAGOGUE ARTS,	425
INDEX,	439

STATESMEN
OF
THE TIME OF GEORGE III.

INTRODUCTION.

THE affairs of men, the interests and the history of nations, the relative value of institutions as discovered by their actual working, the merits of different systems of policy as tried by their effects, are all very imperfectly examined without a thorough knowledge of the individuals who administered the systems and presided over the management of the public concerns. The history of empires is, indeed, the history of men, not only of the nominal rulers of the people, but of all the leading persons who exerted a sensible influence over the destinies of their fellow-creatures, whether the traces of that influence survived themselves, or, as in the case of lesser minds, their power was confined to their own times.

But, in another view, this kind of inquiry, this species of record, is even more important. Not only the world at large is thus instructed, but the character of statesmen and rulers is improved. Examples are held up of the faults which they are to avoid, and of the virtues which they are to cultivate. Nor can history ever be the school of potentates, whether on or near the throne, unless the character and the conduct of their predecessors be thoroughly scrutinized. This