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APRIL TO OCTOBER, 1824.

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Monthly Magazines have opened a way for every kind of inquiry and information. The intelligence and discussion contained in them are very extensive and various ; and they have been the means of diffusing a general habit of reading through the nation, which, in a certain degree hath enlarged the public understanding. HERE, too, are preserved a multitude of useful hints, observations, and facts, which otherwise might never have appeared.—*Dr. Kippis.*

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## ADVERTISEMENT.

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It may be truly said, that the wizard regions of fancy are every day extending; the spacious fields of science and invention are constantly widening; and the reading public, as in Athens of old, seems destined to embrace the whole community. Under such circumstances, it appears surprising that there are so few Magazine readers in America, compared with those of England. Any thing in the shape of a newspaper, is patronized, torn up, and its contents, if not upon the eternal topic of politics, even forgotten, till the old is perhaps hashed up for a new course. The American reader, in contra-

distinction to the European, seems to entertain a mortal antipathy to any kind of periodical reading that can be laid on the shelf ; his money is freely given for the mental ' food that perisheth,' but for that which endureth in sheepskin for the edification of his children, he thinks it a ' twice-told tale.'

The dearth of interest in the old song of politics, since the suspension of party-spirit in this country, has been so great, that the newspapers have begun to occupy the ground which in England is almost exclusively possessed by magazines ; how inconveniently need scarcely be mentioned, as the vehicles of communication are hardly held together during perusal, and at farthest are destined, like Jonah's gourd, to perish on the morrow—" to wrap a package or to singe a goose."

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