

ON THE
ORIGIN AND PROGRESS
OF THE
NORTH-WEST COMPANY
OF
C A N A D A,
&c. &c. &c.

1. **T**HE Indian or Fur Trade, which commenced with the discovery of Canada, and was at first an insignificant barter, is now very considerable, and one of the most important branches of the commerce carried on between British America and the Mother Country. It is this trade which attaches to the British empire a race of men (the Indians) which no system merely political could maintain, either in subordination or fidelity; but whose fidelity and subordination are essential to the safety of the greater part of His Majesty's dominions in North
B 2 America.