

whose precipitated waters strike the eye with wonder and astonishment.

This country is impressed, not only with an air of grandeur, but of antiquity. Peopled when it was first known to European nations by various tribes of wandering savages, who had no fixed habitation, and whose traditions were fabulous and obscure, its history is involved in doubt and uncertainty. Here no vestige of a ruin attracts the eye of a traveller. Human art seems never to have been employed to perpetuate the revolutions of the past. Nature is the only record to which he can resort for information : and though the numerous and extensive lakes, which cover so large a portion of the province, appear to afford a proof of its being more recently forsaken by the ocean than other parts of the American continent ; yet the venerable aspect of its aged forests, the formation of its rocks, and the distribution of its mountains, favour the belief of a high antiquity *.

* The Stony Mountains in the western boundaries of the province are a continuation of the Cordilleras of the