

T H E
H I S T O R Y
O F
A M E R I C A.
B O O K I.

THE progress of men in discovering and peopling the various parts of the earth, has been extremely slow.

BOOK
I.

Several ages elapsed before they removed far from those mild and fertile regions where they were originally placed by their Creator. The occasion of their first general dispersion is known; but we are unacquainted with the course of their migrations, or the time when they took possession of the different countries which they now inhabit. Neither history nor tradition furnish such information concerning those remote events, as enables us to trace, with any certainty, the operations of the human race in the infancy of society.

The earth
slowly peo-
pled.

WE may conclude, however, that all the early migrations of mankind were made by land. The ocean, which everywhere surrounds the habitable earth, as well as the various arms of the sea which separate one region from another, though

First migra-
tions by land.

VOL. I.

B

defined