

tants. Prejudice and animosity have contributed to warp the judgment of some writers; while others, seeing every thing with interested or partial eyes, have presented to the world the most flattering and deceptive accounts. The true character of a people, and particularly such a one as that of the United States, is of a very mixed nature, and can never be gathered from this or that remarkable feature. Manners and customs are all more or less subservient to local circumstances and situation, and may perhaps carry a nationality about them; but the mind, the disposition, and humours of men are ascertained with difficulty. The Canadians have less variety in their composition, being separated into French and English, and partaking of the peculiarities incident to each of those nations. The inhabitants of the United States, on the contrary, are composed of people from almost every nation in Europe, though by far the greater part are descended of British parents. The establishment of their independence has created an evident