

# THE QUEBEC MAGAZINE

FOR JUNE 1793.



*A view of the Confederation of the United States of America, by way of Allegory; from a late publication entitled "The Foresters."*

WHEN the Foresters had broken their connection with Mr. Bull, it was uncertain what connections they might form abroad; but it was judged expedient for them to be united among themselves, that no one family should connect itself in trade with any merchant or factor, without the consent of the others. In short, it became necessary for them to enter into a partnership for their mutual interest and convenience. To do this was a nice point, and required much delicacy. It was to them a new subject, and they had an untrodden path before them. After much consultation and inquiry, their ingenuity suggested to them the idea of an original social compact. "Why should we," said they, "look abroad for precedents, when we have enough among ourselves? See the beavers in our own brooks and meadows, how they work in complete partnership, each family has its own cell, and a number of cells are placed in one pond. They carry on their operations with peace and unanimity, without even the appearance of a master. Here is a perfect republic, a complete equality, a striking example of order without subordination, of liberty without jealousy, of industry without coercion, of economy without parlimony, of sagacity without overbearing influence. Every one knows his own business and does it; their labour goes on with regularity and decency; their united efforts serve the common cause, and the interest of every one is involved in that of the whole. Let us go and do likewise." The hint took, and a plan of CONFEDERATION, as it was called, was drawn upon principles of the purest equality; each family retaining the entire controul of its own domestic concerns, without any interference of the others, and agreeing to contribute voluntarily its proportion of labour and money to support the common interest.

This was, in theory, a very pretty device, exactly suited to a set of people who thought themselves completely virtuous. But as it often happens,