

ses which they unavoidably occasion to individuals. In the same manner, we might wish the Sun to become invisible to our hemisphere ; because he sometimes scorches, although he much more frequently nourishes, the fruits on which we live.

BUT, independently of this general reasoning, it may easily be shown that this objection does not apply to the case before us. The Canadians are to be considered as an agricultural people ; at least, it is chiefly of those who are so employed, of whom I now speak. Of the people employed in husbandry, it is to be observed, that they have always been found of a graver deportment than the inhabitants of towns, or those who are employed in manufactures. Their amusements are of a graver nature, and all their ideas and reasonings are of a more sober cast. When, therefore, they learn to read, the publications which engage their attention are suitable to the general turn of their minds. They are such as tend, for the most part, to improve the mental powers, and afford useful lessons of morality and virtue. The subjects to which such persons generally confine their reading, are Religion, History, Geography, Voyages and Travels. Such we know to be the case with the inhabitants of Iceland, with the peasantry of Scotland and of Switzerland. And such, no doubt, will be the case with the Canadian husbandmen, whenever they shall have it in their power to participate of such amusement.

IF we now bring down our attention to the common occupations of life, we shall find knowledge no less favourable to private happiness,