

tion ; for if he is comfortable at home he will never think of coming abroad. In either of these countries he will enjoy perfect tranquility from those commotions and adverse occurrences which are so common amongst the dense population of older countries, and become the means, not only of cultivating and improving, and exploring the natural capabilities of the country to which he has removed, but of perpetuating the laws, the morals, and the manners of the country which gave him birth. In this view, his country is more indebted to the enterprising emigrant than he is to his country, though in general we should be inclined to assume all obligations of this kind reciprocally. But it is by these means, however slow in their progress and undigested in their execution, that a powerful and flourishing country, such as our own, is enabled to spread more remotely the wings of her greatness and her glory, and by lending the sinews of her wealth and population to distant colonies, to carry down through ages of prosperity and improvement her own natural as well as domestic customs. Thus did two celebrated people, the Grecians and the Romans, raise themselves to a height of reputation which they will ever enjoy, and which, though the monuments of their national splendour be now crumbling in the dust, will always reflect honour on the human species. Without anticipating the same fate, may we not expect that the same honours await our own Metropolitan State, and that after ages will look to her as a third great luminary in the hemisphere of human genius, reflecting the glory of the past upon the dawning hopes of the future ? And if so, may we not expect that the region wherein we have commenced these our labours, will one day participate in the honours resulting to the mother country from a long and peaceful reign of literary and scientific enjoyment ? We have neither the vanity nor the pride to conceive that any effort of ours will contribute in the slightest degree to promote so very desirable an event, and are sure that with whatever ardour we may be tempted to persevere in the discharge of our duty, our labours can only be considered as occupying a place in that distant and general approach towards literary distinction which must ever characterize a new and unsettled country. But humble and distant as that approach must necessarily be, may we not be permitted to hope, that the spirit which has lately arisen in this country, and induced the better informed classes of society to prosecute with such eagerness those paths in the study of letters which lead to the sources of more refined and general information, tends to a fruition no less creditable to the parties concerned, than it will be useful to the future improvement of the country in every department of the arts. With whatever certainty we may accustom ourselves to look forward to the realization of such hopes, we must, in the mean time, submit to be taught by the literary history of other countries, that our progress must necessarily be slow ; for though Greece and Rome gave birth and maturity to every species of refinement, many an eventful period of their life passed away, before the fine arts and literary knowledge ripened into that manhood and perfection by which they shall ever be distinguished while a vestige of them remains to be admired. But