

This will appear more manifest when we consider that the British American Provinces, unlike most other appendages of the Empire, are almost wholly inhabited by natives of Great Britain, or the descendants of such natives imbued with the same moral and political sentiments, and cherishing the same domestic and national feelings as their fathers and their ancient kindred. Much has been said and written about the extent, wealth, splendour and importance of what has been termed the British Empire in India, and great stress has been laid upon its value to England in a commercial and political point of view. But however, much we may pray for the prosperity of our country in this latter respect, and estimate the benefits which may have been derived from our influence and possessions in India, a moment's attention to the moral materials, if we may so express ourselves, of which these possessions are composed, will not only convince us of their comparative inability for extending and preserving the grand objects of civilization and refinement, but of the doubts which must ever exist, no less from natural than political causes, about the preservation of India as a component part of the British Empire. Thither no Britons are ever heard to transport themselves and their families for the purpose of taking root, as it were, in the soil, and of spreading the manners of their native land over the surface of the earth, and so perpetuating them to the latest ages. No individual ever dreams of going to India, unless he is so fortunate as to hold a commission in the British army or in the civil service of the country; and the moment his duties are performed, or his prospects realized, he returns to his native country to spend the remainder of his days in that ease and affluence which his good fortune abroad may have secured to him. Even the British laws are not in force in India; and in a British settlement where we neither find these nor the Constitution which bore them in full and vigorous operation, we may very reasonably conclude, that such cannot be the spot which is destined to perpetuate the manners, the arts, the learning, or the literature of the mother country. Here, however, matters are quite different; and what we have endeavoured to express in the negative of India, may be repeated in the affirmative of Canada, and the other British Provinces on this Continent. Year after year do thousands of our fellow countrymen, with their wives, families and moveable effects and property, transport themselves across the Atlantic, never more to return, but to establish themselves in an useful and permanent manner on waste lands belonging to the British Crown, the encouragement of whose liberality they immediately receive, and the protection of whose laws in their fullest force and most liberal construction, is immediately extended to them, even in the remotest corner of the woods. Whatever may be the untoward lot or misfortune of some individuals who come to this country—and there are misfortunes in the best regulated and most prosperous communities—we maintain, that the only change which a British emigrant who is really bent upon or inclined to do good, undergoes upon coming to either of the Canadas, Nova Scotia, or New Brunswick, is a year or two of hard labour and a total amelioration of his condi-