

A gentleman of tried probity, who had served the Company with remarkable fidelity and success for upwards of seventeen years, came home in 1782, with a view to spend the remainder of his days in his native country, and to enjoy himself a little, after a long and painful servitude. Upon his arrival he was in hopes at least to be introduced to the Gentlemen he had served so long, and to find his conduct approved by those who had reaped the fruits of his industry; but this small favour was denied him; and he went into the country, without finding these reasonable expectations gratified; nor could he be very well pleased with the supercilious conduct of his late masters.

The labouring servants, as before observed, are all procured from the Orkney Islands, at the rate of six pounds per year; the Captains of the ships engage them, and, if possible, for five years. Each servant signs a contract on his entrance into the service, but he is not allowed to have a copy of it, for fear the secrets of the Company should gain admittance into the world; so that as