

CRITICAL NOTICES.

'This splendid production of talent, as varied as it is replete with unwearied industry, treats of the British possessions comprising their history, commerce, finance, productions, monetary system, state of religion and of the press, with a mass of statistical, geographical, scientific, and other details. It is, in fact, a work of very high merit, and embodying a fund of information indispensable alike to the statesman, the legislator, the merchant, manufacturer, and trader in every class, as well as the general reader. We do not think that for many years past, a work of more utility and instruction has issued from the fertile press.'—*Guardian and Public Ledger*.

'The vast Colonial appendages to the Empire of Britain—wings spreading over all the divisions of the habitable earth—have yet never found a writer of powers equal to the task of arraying all their wonders, in so comprehensive and splendid an order of arrangement, as appears in the volume now under our notice. Mr. Montgomery Martin, a gentleman of very extensive travel as an officer in the Naval Service of his country, has come well prepared with materials for the task of describing the natural history, commercial importance, and political value of all our colonial dominions in the old and new worlds. We express our sincere desire that a work of such vast research, clear arrangement, and extensive commercial utility may meet with that extended patronage which alone can reward the labour and talent which abound in the Colonial History of the Empire.'—*Sunday Herald*.

We wonder such a work has not appeared long before the year 1834—considering that the mother country possesses Colonies in every part of the globe, but it is a matter of congratulation that now it has been undertaken, the task has devolved upon a man fully competent to accomplish it. A more varied history (it is one demanding deep research, patient toil, unwearied industry, and vigorous intellect) could not be produced; Mr. Martin, having passed one-third of his life travelling in the Colonies, has spent his time industriously and well, he has indefatigably persevered in collecting important information, and has filled up a blank sheet in the pages of our history, the absence of which has long been felt; every class who live by commerce, agriculture, and manufactures will do well to study this important national work, where new sources for the employment of industry are pointed out in a clear, ample, and satisfactory manner, and a mass of facts collected which will interest every one.'—*Sunday Times*.

'The production of a second volume within the year of this great and important undertaking is highly creditable to Mr. Montgomery Martin, and we cordially wish him success,—the volume before us (No. 2.) will probably soon pass into another edition.'—*Gentleman's Magazine for November, 1834*.

'Mr. Martin's first volume will make a text book for after, as it is an ornament to the present time. In fact, it is a complete digest of all that is necessary to be known on a subject of such paramount interest. A standard work upon the vast interests that are so essential to the very existence of the empire, has long been wanting. The 'History of the British Colonies' bids fair to assume the vacant niche in the literature of the country.'—*Metro: Atlas Mag. April, 1834*.

'The third volume of Mr. Martin's Colonial History, embracing the whole of our possessions in North America, is distinguished by the same breadth and rapidity of style,—the same diligence and discursiveness in research,—and the same manner of throwing out numerous facts in huge masses, which especially marked the preceding volumes. We do not know of any writer who is so laborious in the accumulation of details,—who is so familiar with multitudinous sources of information,—and who sweeps into his service such a vast variety of data: his stores appear to tumble into the ocean of his book with the velocity of some cataract, roaring downwards to the sea.'—*Atlas, December 31, 1834*.

'A work of this extensive description almost forbids the possibility of anything like a satisfactory review, or adequate literary notice, even in periodicals of the largest calibre; almost in proportion to the quantity and the value of its contents, is the difficulty of affording a right idea of them. We regret this circumstance, because we think highly of Mr. Martin's industry and ability, and deem his country much indebted to him for this application of them: yet, we can do no more than state the fact in general terms, and leave the *History of the British Colonies*—the history of a system of colonization, and dependence upon a parent land, unexampled in the annals of mankind—to make its way as speedily, and as assuredly as it merits, into every good library throughout these colonies and that parent land.'—*London, Literary Gazette, December 20, 1834*.

'This third volume displays the same industry in collecting facts, the same skill in their arrangement, and the same desire to do good that won our approbation for the author's *History of the Asiatic and West Indian Colonies*. We have compared several of Mr. Martin's statements with official returns laid before Parliament and have found his *representations faithful in every particular*.'—*Athenaeum, December 20, 1834*.

'This is a work of great research, well and ably written, clear and lucid in its arrangement, and correct in the statements which it embodies. To a great extent, too, it may be considered a desideratum, filling up as it does a blank in the literature of the country.'—*Globe, March, 1834*.

'An elaborate work, full of tables of every description calculated to illustrate the wealth, produce, military resources, and trade of these extensive and important possessions, and systematically and lucidly arranged so as to give at once a complete view of our colonies.'—*Courier*.