

The difficulty of directing the emigrations of the Highlanders, arises from their uncommonly gregarious disposition ; a singularity which is easily accounted for, when we consider how much their peculiar language and manners tend to seclude them from intercourse with other people. Circumstances, in a great measure accidental, induced the first persons, who left the different districts of the Highlands, to fix themselves in various situations. The first steps of this kind were taken with feelings of awful uncertainty. They were decided upon, under a total want of information respecting the country, towards which their course was directed ; except, perhaps, from interested representations of persons concerned in land speculations. It is said that some of the first adventurers had fatal experience of the falsehood of these ;—that they were misled and ruined.

Whether from the tradition of such events, or from the habitual jealousy, which is generally found among men in the ruder stages of society, it is certain that the Highlanders al-