

NOVA-SCOTIA

CONSIDERED AS A FIELD FOR EMIGRATION.

INTRODUCTORY.

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AT a very early period in the history of Nova-Scotia, an impression got abroad concerning the general character of the country which has been highly prejudicial to its interests, and must have been, at the time that impression originated, unjust to its real merits. That impression generally was to the effect that Nova-Scotia was an unattractive and valueless country, having rugged and inhospitable coasts, a thin and unproductive soil, and a cold, damp, and foggy climate ; but on the shores of which a tolerably productive fishery existed, and was carried on to a limited extent for the purpose of supplying the West India market. This opinion seems to have become stereotyped, and, with little variation or addition, has been embodied in nearly every work published in the United Kingdom, in which a corner has been afforded for a description of Nova-Scotia. As but a small number of the emigrating class feel disposed to confine themselves exclusively to the occupation of fishermen, among those of that class who have sought a home on the shores of America, during a century past, but a very small pro-