

PREFACE.

IN GREAT BRITAIN, less is known of Nova Scotia, than of any other Colony she possesses. Many persons suppose, that the only value of the Province, consists in the shelter its various bays and harbours afford the Navy; that the Coast is thinly inhabited by fishermen; and that the interior, is a stony sterile region, incapable from the poverty of the soil, and inclemency of the climate, of yielding a sufficient return, to repay the labour and expense of cultivation. Some admit that there is a little good land on the banks of the rivers emptying into the Bay of Fundy, but all condemn the climate in the most unqualified manner, and the soil with little exception. The object of this work is to dispel these errors and to give a true description of its climate and productions, its agriculture and trade, its public institutions and laws, &c. &c. A residence of more than fifteen years in the country, and repeated journeys into the interior, have made the Author sufficiently acquainted with these particulars, and great pains have been taken to render the work concise, yet not too general; correct, yet not too minute. To those who have friends or relations resident in Nova Scotia, it may be interesting to know something of the country they inhabit, and to those about to emigrate to America, who, when they change their country, would wish to continue their allegiance to their natural and lawful Sovereign, it may be useful to know, that if Nova Scotia possess not throughout, an equal fertility of soil, with the Ohio, Kentucky, &c. it has not their local fevers, and epidemical disorders; that if it pro-