

CALEDONIA SPRINGS.

INTRODUCTION.

THE records of the earliest ages, and the experience of later times, have borne ample testimony to the great benefits that mankind has derived from those founts of health, which leaping into sparkling life from the great laboratory of nature, charged with a happier combination of gentle yet searching medicinal powers than the knowledge of the chemist can produce, have swept away before their healing tide, diseases which had baffled the skill of the physician. Among the most barbarous nations as well as in the most civilized societies, Mineral Springs have been received as direct benefactions from the Creator ; and all men, from the Red Indian of the forest, to the pale exquisite lounging about the Spas of Europe, have subscribed to their efficacy as medical agents, and turned with renewed health and vigor from their streams. Holy Writ bears testimony to their curative powers ; and the great cities which have sprung up beside these fountains, founded as it were in their floods, are so many enduring monuments of their virtues, and of the favor in which they have been held by the pilgrims, who flocked to the pool that they might be whole,