

EMIGRATION.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

The Emigrant, who is leaving the land of his fathers, in quest of a home in the Western World, is liable to form expectations so sanguine and extravagant that they are seldom, if ever, realized. Hope gilds the prospect in a borrowed light, and experience is often accompanied with disappointment. The indiscretion of people who have settled in Canada, and who in writing to their friends at Home, give glowing descriptions of every thing in the New World, the representations of men engaged in land and other speculations, and the thousand rumors that from different sources reach the ear of the emigrant, all tend, in a greater or less degree, to lead him to erroneous conclusions. Animated with expectation, and confident of success, he embarks for the land of promise with feelings not unlike those of the youth just setting out in life,—all before him seeming bright and flattering; but, as he advances the illusions dissolve, and the land that was thought to be one of ease and plenty, proves to be rather the reverse. The feelings of the adventurer lose their wonted buoyancy and ardor, while surveying the rugged aspect of uncultivated nature, and realizing the difficulties, labors, and privations almost inseparable from a first settlement in the wilderness.

That persons possessing different constitutions, habits, and feelings, should, even after having explored a country, come to opposite conclusions, and speak of it in terms too partial, or too unfavorable, according as they have been successful or otherwise, is by no means a matter of surprise; and certain it is that representations coming from these various sources, will be of no fixed character, and will often do injustice to the Country as well as to the Emigrant.