

THE
Halifax Monthly Magazine.

Vol. 1.

JUNE 1, 1830.

No. 1.

EXHIBITION OF PICTURES,

AT DALHOUSIE COLLEGE.

OF the three Arts generally called liberal, painting seems best adapted for exhibition; and although demanding deep research, and great mental power in its execution, it is certainly easiest appreciated by the generality of people. Of Music, the simple melody, or full choral harmony, will more readily than Painting lead captive the mere perception; but Music is so impalpable in its nature, so fleeting in its existence, that we are pleased we know not why, care not wherefore, and little beside mere pleasure is gained. It is formed of air, and created by mystical touch and motion, and is so much of a phantasie, that in the opinion of some, it scarcely imparts a single idea. Beside, in the exhibition of Music, a second party is always requisite; and so far, it is inconvenient for abstraction, or close examination.—Poetry, to many is not more approachable; the reciter, who can throw sound and life into the bard's written thought, will indeed be listened to, as to the voice of a god; and will despotically convey his enraptured auditors wherever his finger points. But without this assistance, to numbers of his fellow men, how flat, stale and unprofitable is the poet's labour. The delicacy and strength of reason beautifully expressed; the vivid colouring of figurative language, are lost to many, as the sunset glory is to the mole. The hidden veins of rich ore which the philosophic bard draws from the material and immaterial world; the harmony with which he imbues the granite masses of the moun-