

THE SCRIBBLER.

MONTREAL, THURSDAY, 13th JUNE, 1822. No. LL

Puto multos potuisse ad sapientiam pervenire, nisi putassent se jam pervenisse. SENECA.

Many might acquire wisdom, if they did not think themselves already wise enough.

Domestica feremus, ut censes. CICERO.

Well, since you expect another Domestic Intelligencer, here it is.

In former days, it is within my remembrance, that young men were not ashamed of being ignorant for a much longer period than would now be tolerated. A youth, for example, of fifteen, knew scarcely any thing, avowed his ignorance, and sat in silence that he might acquire knowledge, as he acquired strength, in the course of nature. A young man of twenty was not less willing to be ignorant, and when introduced into the company of his elders and superiors, was attentive and submissive, retiring with some acquisition of knowledge, but still convinced of his ignorance, and so little ashamed of it, that he often confessed it as a thing unavoidable at his age. I can remember too that even at the age of twenty five or more, it was not the fashion for men to suppose themselves universal scholars, or that nature and science had poured into their capacious minds the whole of their stores. They still did not blush to be unacquainted with what they had no means of knowing, and were content to wait the slow process of time and study to remove their ignorance in a