

"Harvey Birch," is a spy employed by the commander-in-chief of the American forces, to bring whatever intelligence he may obtain from the opposite quarter.—In order to prevent detection, the spy disguises himself as a pedlar, and in that character has free egress and ingress to both parties. However, it is not our purpose at present to lead our reader through all the apartments of this fabric of fiction:—he must be content with the name of the lord, who inhabits it, and with a view of its turrets at a distance.—If we for a moment will throw national prejudices by, and judge of this work as unconnected with extrinsic relations, we I think will not hesitate in pronouncing it worthy a second perusal;—yea!—a third:—for genius, in every nation and in every age of time, will attract attention and be admired, although its political bearing may be opposed to general feeling.

"THE PIONEERS" next appeared; and its appearance was hailed with a hearty welcome by Cooper's countrymen. We were in New York when it was first offered for sale; and the demand for the book was unexampled in that part of the world. This was to be expected, as the Spy had given such universal satisfaction. The scene of the tale is laid in the western country, in the midst of the wilderness, where civilization had hardly reached: therefore "no ivy mantled towers," no moss enveloped ruins, and no dilapidated buildings could be introduced: all was new as heaven made it.—Yet even there our author's peculiar genius has fabricated an agreeable and deeply interesting story. The domestic constitution of Judge Templeton's family is inimitably delineated; and the character of "Leather-stocking" would not disgrace any novelist of the age.—This work is more generally admired than the Spy; but we have all our likes and our dislikes; and as for ourselves we must unequivocally declare, that we conceive it inferior to its prede-

cessor.—However, its descriptive scenery is peculiarly beautiful;—and the delineation of a wood on fire exhibits no small share of skill in that department of composition. In short, the book was received at Edinburgh, where the great tribunal of modern literature is held—and when a book of any kind passes the ordeal of a trial in that court, and escapes uncondemned, it is a clear and incontestible proof of its merit.

In a very short time "THE PILOT" followed, and was received with that kindness and applause, which speaks approbation.—Part of this highly entertaining tale may be considered aquatic, as its interest depends upon a voyage at sea, and we assert without the fear of contradiction, that the roar of the tempest and the dash of the wave, are better depicted by Cooper, than by any other prose author of the age.—This can be accounted for, as he formerly was an officer of the American Navy, and consequently, had an opportunity of observing the sea in its calmest and wildest moments. The hero of the tale is the well known Paul Jones. "LONG TOM" is an excellent characteristic of a Cape Cod whale fisherman.

We partly read "LIONEL OF LINCOLN" (which succeeded the Pilot) in manuscript previous to its publication; and our impression at the time was, that it was equal to any of the author's other works: but as we only saw it before its completion, our opinion is not to be depended upon. "THE LAST OF THE MOHEGANS" we have never seen.

Whether it were intended or accidental, we know not; but the reader will observe something strikingly progressive in the title of these novels. 1. Precaution.—2. The Spy.—3. The Pioneers.—4. The Pilot, &c. We have given this sketch of Cooper, because he is but little known in this Province, and because it may be the means of introducing his works to our fair lovers of romance. His novels are increasing with a rapidity