SKETCHES OF

river some time afterwards, I witnessed the interesting spectacle of the disembarkation of a number of British emigrants. The greater part were from Scotland, as I quickly discovered, and a seven-weeks passage across the Atlantic did not appear to have divested them of a single national peculiarity; but their robust forms were a little reduced by the sickness and confinement attendant upon a long voyage. It amused me to observe how the officiousness of the Canadian porters was damped by the watchfulness and suspicion of the Highlanders; many an active Canadian, who had lifted a trunk upon his shoulders, with the intention of putting it in his little cart, was stopped by the alarmed owner, and divested of his burden, amidst abusive exclamations in Gaelic. Most of the emigrants had families, and the children formed a large part of the groupe. However, I observed several grandfathers and grandmothers, who, though feeble from age and infirmity, had accompanied their offspring thus far in their voyage to the terra incognito of Upper Canada. They looked round with disconsolate and inquiring eyes; and if any feature in the appearance of the town chanced to resemble some part of their native village or city, it caused a joyful exclamation, and was eagerly pointed out to the notice of the whole crowd.

The vessel in which I had come across the

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