

liminary object of this paper, the primary intention of which is, by entering at some length into the political history of this province, to shew what might still be done for its improvement, and for permanently connecting its interests with those of the British empire. Such a discussion has in this country become the more indispensably necessary in consequence of some dark insinuations which have occasionally been propagated by a few unwary and discontented individuals with respect to the legislative supremacy of the mother country, notwithstanding the sanction which the usage of centuries has given to the rights exercised on this subject, besides the laws which have been passed bearing directly upon these rights, and to which we shall by and by particularly call the attention of the reader. Considering the present political situation of the world—considering the power, the glory, and the riches of Great Britain—considering the steady care and protection which colonial settlements generally require, and, in particular, the increasing importance of the local resources and political institutions of the British colonies in America, we know not a greater calamity that could befall them, short of total destruction, than to withdraw from them those sovereign prerogatives which the rights of conquest and of settlement have so unquestionably vested in the parent state. Such a proceeding as this would throw the colonies destitute on the world; and, like so many weak and unprotected females, expose them first to the designs, and then to the derision and scorn of the ravishers of their dearest and most valuable rights. The ambitious would prey upon them—the lawless would rob them—and in this general scramble for dominion over them, their own political existence, if not their moral identity, would be lost, perhaps, for ever. No proposition has been more frequently repeated by a certain description of political economists, than that the security and prosperity of our mother country would be greater if her dominion over all her colonies were entirely given up. Though we do not conceive the refutation of this point to be attended with much difficulty, yet it is not our intention to enter upon it at present. But sure we are, that it is no less the duty and the interest, than the honour and the respectability of the colonies themselves to adhere strictly and inviolably to their allegiance, as the only sure means of arriving at ultimate happiness.

There is in man an inherent principle of migration as well as of generation. Indeed it does not well appear how the one could possibly exist without the other; nor how the world could have been peopled as it is with beings possessing such a variety of faculties and of talents, all conspiring to maintain in full and