

SIMMONDS'S
COLONIAL MAGAZINE

AND

Foreign Miscellany.

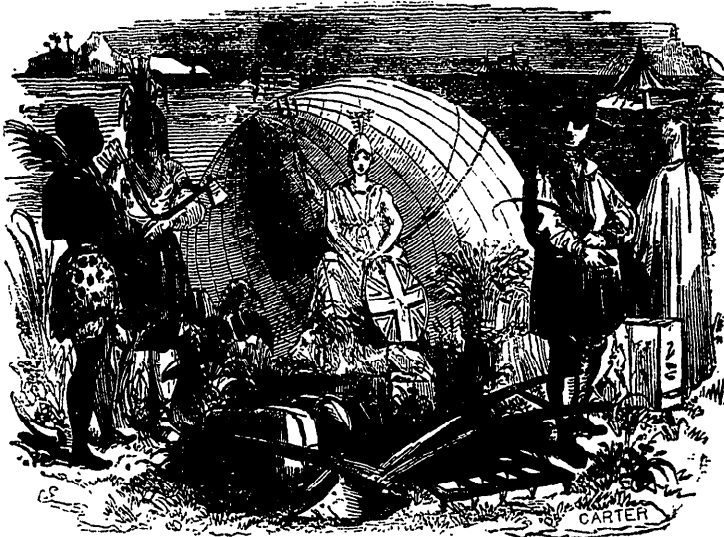
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MAY—AUGUST, 1844.

VOL. II.



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"The Chart of our Colonies is a Chart of the World in outline; for we sweep  
the Globe, and touch every shore."  
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P R E F A C E .

It is too frequently the case with the world to applaud success a censure failure, indiscriminately, without considering the means which the one was obtained, and without knowing the causes which the other was incurred. To command success in any project however praiseworthy, or to insure completion of any work, however possible, is beyond the power of man. While its structure is in progress, a thousand minute and apparently insignificant circumstances must unite, combine, and concur—a thousand accidents over which we have no control, must be watched, and guarded against; and when practicable, turned to account, before we can attain our desires, realise our expectations. But though fruition cannot be commanded, success insured, opposition may be anticipated; hostility placated, an opportunity invoked. It is not sufficient to success that a scheme should be well conceived; it is also necessary that the details should be carried out with care, the accessories applied with skill, and the progress tempered by judgment. Nothing is to be taken for granted; and when the architect sees in perspective the pinnacle towering in its pride, must not overlook the scaffolding, neither must he be negligent in the superintendence of the workmen engaged in the structure. His thoughts may be theoretical, but his theories must be practicable.

How far these remarks apply to the Editor of this Magazine it is for us to inquire. It will be sufficient to acknowledge with gratitude the welcome we have received, the patronage we have been honored with, and the success which has attended our endeavors to place before the British public and before our vast and almost illimitable Colonial Possessions, a succinct but faithful monthly report of all matters connected with Trade, Commerce, and Navigation; and with the interests and well-being of each. We say fearlessly, we have never slumbered at our post; and possessing as we do facilities which no single establishment in Great Britain can lay claim to, we have neither neglected, nor abused those facilities. We have for the first time in the history of Colonial Literature attempted, and have succeeded in that attempt, to establish a Journal principally on Colonial matters which should contain information, not to be obtained elsewhere, alike valuable to the Statesman and the Scholar, the Merchant and the Emigrant; in which there is no class of persons who may not, in the pages of our Magazine find amusement, instruction, and information.

That our efforts have been crowned with success we attribute in the first instance to the talents and abilities of our numerous, able, learned and practical contributors—men who have seen the Colonies and

provinces they attempt to describe—who have traversed vast oceans, and explored tangled woods—who have bivouacked under the canopy of Heaven in the far-distant East—who have trod the plains of the Polynesian Archipelago—stemmed the torrents and rapids of Canada—toiled beneath the overpowering sun of the West—and through the fluvial poison of African navigation have made their way to bring back to the shores of their native country, the riches, the knowledge, the experience of their travels. It is to such men that we have been indebted for the light we have hitherto been enabled to throw upon the History and the events of remote regions; and to them shall we continue to be indebted for future contributions—men in whom are united the feelings of the gentleman, the tact of the author, and the patience of the traveller.

To these gifted men, then, we say, in the first place, we have been indebted; but it required both caution and judgment, in the revising and editing, of their contributions; for he who feels strongly, will write strongly; and however just a complaint may be, it is not always prudent to make that complaint public. Hence we were sometimes placed in situations of difficulty and doubt; fully aware of the justice of the general charge contained in some particular article, but perplexed and uncertain as to the policy of publishing it. We owe this explanation to some of our distant correspondents in Asia, Africa, and America, and they will, we are sure, receive it in the spirit in which it is made.

To the Colonists we say, that such as they have received, such will they continue to receive from us. Our efforts will be always directed to the advancement of their civil, political, and religious interests.

To our readers in Great Britain we have also a few words to say:—we recal their attention to the fact, that *Simmonds's Colonial Magazine* has, since its first publication, not only invariably supplied the fullest, but the latest intelligence on Colonial affairs of any other periodical in Europe, and that to continue and extend this information, we have recently entered into correspondence with parties at Hong Kong for the most recent, the fullest, and completest information connected with our commercial intercourse with China. This, added to the intelligence we have been previously in the habit of giving on Indian, West Indian, Canadian, New Zealand, Nova Scotian, Newfoundland, Maltese, and Ionian affairs, will render this periodical the most general, the most accessible and the most valuable medium of advertising to be found in any single publication in the world; and this we announce—not from any mean or interested motives, but from laudable and praiseworthy feelings—namely, that Manufacturers, Shippers, and Advertisers in general, may know which is the best possible medium of advertisement for Colonial goods, and that Merchants in the Colonies may see who are the parties in Great Britain likely to supply them with the articles they require of the best manufacture, and at the cheapest rate.

For the support which we have received we are grateful; for the fulfilment of the promises which we make we are prepared; for the future, which is unknown, we are confident.

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