MEMOIRS OF AN AMERICAN LADY:
WITH SKETCHES OF MANNERS AND
SCENERY IN AMERICA, AS THEY EXISTED
PREVIOUS TO THE REVOLUTION. IN TWO
VOLUMES, VOL. I

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Memoirs of an American Lady: With Sketches of Manners and Scenery in America, as They Existed Previous to the Revolution. In Two Volumes, Vol. I by Anne MacVicar Grant

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ANNE MACVICAR GRANT

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VOL. I.

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THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

SIR WILLIAM GRANT, KNT.

MASTER OF THE ROLLS.

SIR,

It is very probable that the friends, by whose solicitations I was induced to arrange in the following pages my early recollections, studied more the amusement I should derive from executing this task, than any pleasure they could expect from its completion.

The principal object of this work is to record the few incidents, and the many virtues which divertified and

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diftinguished the life of a most valued friend. Though no manners could be more fimple, no notions more primitive, than those which prevailed among her affociates, the stamp of originality with which they were marked, and the peculiar circumstances in which they flood, both with regard to my friend, and the infant fociety to which they belonged, will, I flatter myfelf, give an interest with reflecting minds, even to this defultory narrative; and the miscellany of description, observation, and detail, which it involves.

If truth, both of feeling and narration, which are its only merits, prove a fufficient counterbalance to carelessiness, laxity, and incoherence of style, its prominent faults, I may venture to invite you, when you unbend from the useful and honourable labours to which your valuable time is devoted, to trace this seeble delineation of an excellent, though unembellished character; and of the rapid pace with which an infant society has urged on its progress from virtuous simplicity, to the dangerous "knowledge of good and evil;" from tremulous imbecility to self-sufficient independence.

To be faithful, a delineation must necessarily be minute. Yet if this sketch, with all its imperfections, be honoured by your indulgent perusal, AS such fuch condescension of time and talent must certainly be admired, and may perhaps be imitated by others.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your faithful humble servant,
THE AUTHOR.

London, October, 1808.

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