TOUR THROUGH PARTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

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BEAUFOY "A BRITISH SUBJECT"

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THROUGH PARTS OF

THE UNITED STATES

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CANADA.

BY A BRITISH SUBJECT.

LONDON:
LONGMAN, REES, ORME, BROWN, AND GREEN,
PATERNOSTER ROW.

1828.

PREFACE.

As the contents of the following Letters, relate to a portion of the world not very frequently visited by British Travellers, it has been thought that the novelty of the subject may perhaps compensate for the deficiencies of the style; and if my endeavours to do justice to the many estimable qualities of the American citizens, or the assertion that their prosperity is a source of just pride to the Mother Country, shall tend to strengthen those bonds of mutual good-will between the two Nations, which are rapidly succeeding the animosities of the revolutionary struggle; I shall consider my late excursion has been useful, as well as highly agreeable.

THE AUTHOR.

CONTENTS.

LETTER VII.

LETTER VIII.

LETTER IX.

A TOUR

THROUGH

THE UNITED STATES.

LETTER I.

VOYAGE—ENTRANCE OF THE HUDSON—QUARANTINE REGULATIONS — CUSTOM-HOUSE ANNOYANCES — RESTRICTIONS ON ALIENS.

New York, April 20, 1827.

DEAR ———,

RAMBLING as have been my habits, I really felt at some loss, when selecting the American packet to convey me across the Atlantic. They are all in truth such fine vessels, varying in size from 350 to 500 tons, and with such excellent accommodations for eating and sleeping, that a less fastidious man than myself might well be puzzled: I fixed however finally on the port of Liverpool, in preference to those of Havre and Cowes; and we embarked—a motley crew of passengers.

Each dormitory arranged round the "salon

à manger" has two births in it! It is a kind of latticed box, with just sufficient room to stand and wash between the beds and the door; and I was especially careful to seize on the upper coffin for my resting-place, because, in case of sea-sickness, the cascade is sometimes impelled by the rolling of the ship over the face of the unlucky sleeper below.

At first, what a lovely deep blue the unfathomable waters of the great ocean assume; but very speedily the charming monotony of sea and air, and air and sea, begins to grow tedious. Eyes are strained round the horizon for a new object; and some even brave the dangers of fines and falls, by cautiously creeping up the shrouds and through lubber's-hole, to enjoy a better look-out. Shouts of "A sail—a sail," then cause even the miserable vomiters to rush on deck, with cries of "Where—where?" Alas! it is only a Portuguese man-of-war; a sort of small animated blubber, which raises or lowers at will its pale lilac-coloured bladder to the winds.

Four times a-day did the well-covered table of this packet groan under a variety of dishes, containing flesh, fowl, and pastry; and as often did the majority of those with weak stomachs quit their lairs for the feast. The sea air, they said, gave them an appetite; and well it might, for they had all the pleasure of mastication with-