The first of these circumstances is salubrity; with a view to which the vicinity of low and marshy grounds, of swamps, and of rivers which are apt to overflow their banks ought to be carefully avoided. High situations, open to the sea, or washed by rivers with high and steep banks should be sought. Mountains in the vicinity, and in the direction from which the wind regularly blows, are much to be desired; and great attention should be paid to the abundance of brooks and springs, and to the quality of their water. On all these accounts an elevated and uneven surface ought to be preferred, though less fertile than the flat low grounds. For much attention ought not be paid, in the first settlements, either to great fertility, or the convenience of navigation. The first establishment should no doubt be within a convenient distance from a good port, but need not be close to it,

nor

nor ought to be, unless the immediate vicinity should be much more healthy than such situations usually are. The settlement must be entirely agricultural at first, and will long perhaps always continue so, in a very great degree. Commerce, here, as in our own country, must and will soon grow out of agriculture; but the first settlements ought to be made with a view to the latter, far more than to the former. Contiguity to a good market for agricultural productions, is indeed a very important incitement and aid to agricultural industry, and therefore a very important circumstance in the location of an agricultural colony; but it is far from being the most important, and care must be taken to prevent its being too much regarded.

Nor ought any thing in this respect to be sacrificed to great fertility, which is most frequently found in low flat and unwholesome situations. A good soil, well adapted

to