# THE FORESTERS, AN AMERICAN TALE: BEING A SEQUEL TO THE HISTORY OF JOHN BULL, THE CLOTHIER

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The Foresters, an American Tale: Being a Sequel to the History of John Bull, the Clothier by Jeremy Belknap

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## **JEREMY BELKNAP**

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Jeremy Belknap

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#### THE

# FORESTERS,

AN

### AMERICAN TALE:

BEING A

SEQUEL TO THE HISTORY

OF

JOHN BULL the CLOTHIER.

In a Series of LETYERS to a FRIEND.



PRINTED AT BOSTON,

BY I. THOMAS AND E. T. ANDREWS,

PROPRIETORS of the WORK,

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DISTRICT of MASSACHUSETTS, to wir.

BE it remembered, That on the Eleventh day of February, in the fixnited States of America, Thomas and Andrews, of the faid Diffrict, have deposited in this Office the title of a Book, the right whereof they claim as Proprieters, in the words following, to wit. "The FOR-ESTERS, an American Tale; being a Sequel to the History of John Built the Clothier, in a feries of Letters to a Friend." In conformity to the Act of the Congress of the United States, intituled, "An Act for the encouragement of learning, by fecuring the copies of Maps, Charts, and Books, to the Authors and Proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mantioned."

N. GOODALE, Clerk of the Diffriel of Maffachusetts.



THE

## FORESTERS.

### LETTER 1.

Original State of the Forest.—The Adventures of WALTER PIPEWBED, and CECILIUS PETERSON.

DEAR SIR,

To perform the promife which I made to you before I began my journey, I will give you fuch an account of this, once forest, but now cultivated and pleasant country, as I can collect from my conversation with its inhabitants, and from the perusal of their old family papers, which they have kindly permitted

ment. By these means I have acquainted myself with the story of their first planting, consequent improvements and present state; the recital of which will occupy the hours which I shall be able to spare from business, company and sleep, during my residence among them.

In reading the character of John Bull, which was committed to paper some years ago by one who knew him well, you must have observed, that though "he was in the main an honest, plain dealing fellow, yet he was choleric and inconstant, and very apt to quarrel with his best friends." This observation you will find fully verified in the course of the narrative; and as the opinions and manners of superiors have a very great influence in forming the character of inferiors, you need not be surprised if you find a family likeness prevailing among the persons whose history I am about to recite, most of whom

were

were formerly residents in Mr. Bull's house, or apprentices in his shop.

THERE was among the appendages to John's estate, a pretty large tract of land, which had been neglected by his anceftors, and which he never cared much about, excepting that now and then some of his family went thither a hunting, and brought home venifon and furs. Indeed this was as far as I can find the best pretence that John had to call the land his; for he had no legal title to it. It was then a very woody country, in some parts rocky and hilly, in other parts level; well watered with brooks and ponds, and the whole of it bordered on a large lake, in which were plenty of fifth, fome of which were often ferved up at John's table, on fast days.

THE stories told by one and another of these adventurers, had made a deep im-A 2 pression