

to remain to the end of the ceremony, which does not finish until five o'clock in the morning.

The Anabaptists are distinguished by their belief that baptism must be, similar to that of St. John, an immersion in running water; and that it cannot be received with advantage until they have arrived at the age of discretion. They are dipped naked three times in the water by the minister, who repeats some prayers suitable to the occasion. Their other worship possesses nothing in it extraordinary. The Anabaptists are less numerous than the Methodists. They are subdivided into many other sects, which only differ on some particular points.

The Moravian brethren believe in a communion with spirits; but in a subsequent chapter I shall mention a work, in which will be found an account of this truly curious and interesting sect.

After a long stay at Philadelphia, I proceeded to the interior of the United States. The Federal Town at which the Congress was assembled, attracted particularly my attention. Being desirous of visiting it, I embarked in a packet-boat, which descends the Delaware as far Newcastle, 40 miles below Philadelphia. The weather was cold; but being very clear, I was enabled to contemplate the whole day the banks of the river. The prospect on the right was beautiful; the lands were well cultivated and adorned to a great distance with country seats; on the left, which forms part of Jersey, it presents only a sandy soil, barren, and uncultivated. Having arrived opposite to Wilmington, the wind and tide being contrary, the captain thought proper to cast anchor, and defer our departure to the next day. I therefore went to view this little town, which carries on an extensive commerce in grain. It is celebrated for possessing the best mills in the United States. At a little distance from this place, the famous battle was fought, which occasioned the capture of Philadelphia by the royalist army.

Its population is about two thousand five hundred; the half of whom are Quakers. There are at Wilmington, a court of justice, an hospital and poor-house. The next day, at ten o'clock, I returned to the packet-boat, and descended with the tide, as far as Newcastle; when I took the stage, and reached Charlestown, in the bay of Chesapeake, where there is a packet-boat, which sets out an hour after the arrival of the stage. The village of Newcastle is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Delaware. At a tavern a little distant from Charlestown, I heard of an extraordinary person, whom most travellers visited. This man, whose real name was unknown, had taken an active part in the war for their independence, and was entirely deprived of his reason through an unfortunate attachment. He sometimes received strangers with kindness, and related to them an account of his misfortunes. At