

LETTER II.

Henry Franklin to his Brother.

Philadelphia.

DEAR BROTHER,

A VESSEL being ready to sail for England, I gladly embrace the opportunity of making a few remarks on some subjects that have excited my attention.

Commerce is the universal occupation of the inhabitants of this city, though many of the monied men employ their capitals in buying and selling land, which is here as much an article of traffic as any other commodity. Philadelphia is the grand emporium of the whole province and adjoining states, collecting from them the following articles for exportation: charcoal, pot-ash, beer, cider, salt meat and fish, butter, cheese, corn, flour, tallow candles, linseed, soap, timber, staves, hides, deer and beaver skins, bark, and pigs of iron. The accommodations for commerce are excellent, the quay being large, and so conveniently constructed, that merchantmen of considerable size can unload their cargoes without difficulty. There are also several wet and dry docks for building and repairing ships, besides numerous magazines, and stores; (the American name