

view,—that of affording useful information to those who intend emigrating to this country. How far I have attained that object is another question entirely, which the public alone must decide.

In our former chapters, I endeavoured to preserve some unity of subject; but this shall be one in which we will talk of odds and ends, and hop from one thing to another in a familiar, gossiping style.

It strikes me that you might wish to get some idea of our inns here, as you may possibly have some road travelling. The greater number are kept by persons from the States, and I *guess* that you will not much like their Yankee tricks. These inns might with more propriety be called boarding-houses; most of them are frequented by so great a number of tradesmen, clerks, waggon-drivers, &c., who sit down at the ringing of a bell, to breakfast, dinner, and supper, that the owners care little to entertain a passing traveller, unless he chooses to make one among the above motley group; and if they do take the trouble to accommodate him with a separate room and table, he will be made to pay dear for the distinction.

The folk who congregate on these occasions have, in general, no time for “table talk;” and this circumstance is taken advantage of, both by setting before them a quantity of eatables just sufficient for half the persons present to devour,—with a promise of more, for which the host knows they cannot wait,—and also by taking care to give them knives that would require forty minutes to distinguish the edge from the back.

You have probably heard a great deal of the kindly disposition of the old settlers towards the new ones, and particularly, how they will be delighted at your coming among them—that they will assemble on a maze, put up a house for you, and clear a few acres of your land in a twinkling. I believe they will do all this—provided they expect you are well supplied with whiskey, and bread, and pork, and will be ready to go to them in return, whenever they choose to call on you.

Indeed, in my opinion, the person who would expect more than this, must be a poor judge of human nature. The oldest settlers whom you can well get among, are only beginning to emerge from the difficulties they had