actions, that the favour of the great triumphs over real merit, and that men who have embraced a party are deaf to the voice of reason; I proceeded to the country seat of Washington.

It was in this place that he passed the latter years of his life, and where he was pleased to reflect on the great interests of a country whose independence he had fought for and established. Mount Vernon would have merited no attention, had it not belonged to Washington. The prospect which commands the Potowmac would have been very delightful if the plain were not sandy, and almost uncultivated. The house is large, but without external or internal ornaments; the gardens are well laid out. The library, selected by this great man, contains interesting and useful books. The cultivator, the philosopher, and the statesman are certain of finding here agreeable companions. The French authors whom Washington seems to have most admired, are Buffon and Montesquieu. The notes which he made on those celebrated works, and which Mrs. Washington permitted me to read, prove that his skill and discernment equalled his civil and military virtues.

After remaining two days with this respectable family, I embarked in a packet-boat for Baltimore, where I arrived the same evening, and the next day proceeded with some foreigners, as curious as myself, to view the establishment of Moravian brethren at Bethlehem. This little town is twenty-eight miles from Philadelphia. The Moravian brethren possess all the surrounding lands for more than two miles. There is only one inn, where strangers are received and well treated at a moderate expence. This little place, which more resembles a convent than a town, contains about eight hundred inhabitants. The mildness of their manners, and the regularity of their lives, are perhaps the most remarkable peculiarities of this sect.

On the day of our arrival we visited the convent, which is superintended by the most respectable women of the sect. The buildings are large and well distributed. Young ladies of all religions are educated there. Their employment consists in needle-work, also music, drawing, embroidery, the study of history and religion. One of the mistresses presented to us purses, portfolios, and baskets. We purchased some, and were informed that the profits were employed in charitable works. My limits will not permit me to detail the religious principles of the Moravian brethren; but I refer the curious to the work of M. De Liancourt. Like the Quakers, they enjoy a well deserved reputation for probity and virtue. They are good agriculturists and honest merchants, and extend their humanity to persons of all religions.