

dreadful character of the disease; every thing induced me to seek some place where I might, if possible, escape the contagion. Newark, in Jersey, was the part I fixed upon. This little town, or rather large village, is the most beautiful I have ever seen. The houses, although of wood, are elegantly constructed, and all the inhabitants seem to enjoy the comforts of life.

The number of inhabitants at Newark is about two thousand, almost all Presbyterians. There is also a meeting of Anabaptists; but I seldom ever saw twenty-five people assembled. The Presbyterian church rivals all others at New York, by its size and the elegance of its steeple. The Episcopal church, which is much smaller, is carefully kept in repair.

Situated on a pleasant declivity of a hill, which commands a vast plain, Newark, celebrated for the salubrity of its air and the hospitality of its inhabitants, attracts a great number of strangers, especially when people are obliged to fly from the city. There is scarcely a house which does not contain some. This intercourse occasioned entertainments, at some of which I assisted, less from the love of pleasure than from the desire of judging of the character of the Americans. At the first sound of an instrument, that indolence and apathy, which seem to characterise both sexes, are seen no more. The most sprightly country dances are preferred. In these moments they appear to the most advantage. Naturally beautiful and fair, the Americans are destitute of that vivacity and expression of countenance without which beauty is but a body without a soul. Passing an uniform life, they are only lively when excited by pleasure, or any violent emotion; and then they are, as it were, unlike themselves. Without doubt, they are far from possessing the grace and elegant motions of the French ladies; but they display, in their attitudes and behaviour, an appearance which gives rise to sentiments which cannot be suppressed. The girls go to entertainments without their mothers, who are seldom present, and who remain at home occupied with their other children, or in their household affairs.

During my stay at Newark, I viewed its environs, and particularly the banks of the river Passaic, on which the village is built. The country is carefully cultivated; and although the lands are of a sandy and inferior quality, they are sold at a very high price. Desirous of not leaving any thing worthy of attention unobserved, I visited the falls of the river Passaic, which are considered the greatest curiosity of the province. The village of Patterson, which is on its borders, is seventeen miles distant from Newark. The road is one of the most beautiful in the United States; the number of country seats, and the culture