

In compiling from notes written by many persons under the disadvantages of fatigues, hardships, and privations, it is not easy, however it may be desirable, to avoid the use of all objectionable terms; for these and other inaccuracies which the work may contain, the compiler must plead in excuse the difficulties to which he has previously alluded.

The greater part of the appendix will be found to have been prepared by Mr. Say. The loss which he experienced of the skins of many birds, quadrupeds, and fish, which he had collected, has prevented him from describing several new animals. It is believed that, if none of the shells collected had been lost, the amount of new species described would have been much greater. The plants preserved by Mr. Say, were placed in the hands of the Rev. Lewis D. de Schweinitz, who kindly undertook to describe them; the result of his valuable observations will be found in the appendix. With a view to give an idea of the climate of the country described, as well as to compare it with other places whose climate has been ascertained by older observations, the interesting tables prepared by Dr. Joseph Lovell, Surgeon General of the United States' Army, have been introduced, with his general observations upon the same. They are compiled from the records kept at the various military posts. The climate of Philadelphia has been established by the results of the observations made by Mr. Reuben Haines, at his residence in Germantown, six miles from Philadelphia; the great care which Mr. Haines bestows upon his observations makes them a fit term of comparison for all others. The introduction of these tables has superseded the necessity of recording the variations of temperature observed by our party; they were noted principally by Mr. Seymour.

It may be proper, however, to state, that, valuable as  
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