

we punished his rage by striking him dead on the spot: he had been highly irritated by an *Indian* dog that barked eagerly at him, but was cunning enough to keep out of his reach, or nimble enough to avoid the snake when he sprung at him. We took notice that while provoked, he contracted the muscles of his scales so as to appear very bright and shining, but after the mortal stroke, his splendor became much diminished, this is likewise the case of many of our snakes.

The north side of the Hill is not stony as the south, but yet very poor. Thence we traveled 7 miles over several hollows, swamps and small ridges, full of scrubby bushes, and still poor and stoney to the last great ridge, which is composed chiefly of large gravel, as big as pigeons or pullets eggs, and even the rocks seemed but heaps of the same materials; the descent on the north side is very steep and rocky, large craggy rocks are disposed on all sides, most part of the way down, which brought us to a fine vale, where we lodged by a creek called *Saurel*, and were grievously stung all night with small gnats, so that I slept very little.

The 7th, we set out west from *Saurel* creek and traveled down the vale, which is pretty good land: and leaving the creek, soon crossed another running along the north side of the vale, by the bank of which we rode through a grove
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