

boards. It is owing to this peculiar construction of the houses, that conflagrations are so numerous and destructive. A great fire happened during our short stay at New York. It was at midnight, and the crowd assembled was immense; but I could not hear, after a most anxious enquiry, of any depredation being committed.

It is calculated that there are not more than 4,000 people of colour in this city. Nearly one half of this number are slaves. These, for the most part, have their own places of worship. They seem remarkably fond of dress: that of the fashionable females is generally, at this season, of white muslin.

The progress of moral sentiments, which are at war with interest, must always, from the nature of the human mind, be slow and gradual. In this case, viz. the emancipation of slaves, much has been done and much remains to be done. It is a reflection humiliating to human nature, to consider, that those very men who encouraged the keeping of slaves, subscribed the following