

like a small blue cloud at the edge of the horizon.

As they drew nearer, the tops of trees became visible, and resembled small islands; till, by degrees, the majestic forest was seen clothing the shores to the brink of the water.

Arthur would gladly have been put on shore, but the captain dared not to infringe a law, (enacted on account of the dreadful pestilence, that raged in Philadelphia in 1793, and has so often desolated it since,) that no person shall leave any ship till it has been examined by the officer of health.

Having surmounted all delays, they at length put their feet on that vast continent, (which was not known in Europe till 1497, when it was discovered by Americus Vesputius,) and presently entered Philadelphia, the ancient capital of the United States, with emotions of curiosity and interest, scarcely to be described.

The captain conducted them to a tavern, as all inns are called in this country, where they refreshed themselves with repose, change of linen, &c. A day or two's experience convinced Mr. Franklin, that, as he intended to pass some time in this city, a more comfortable and settled habitation was necessary. The master of the inn recommended him to a respectable widow, who kept a boarding-house for strangers, where he was agreeably supplied