

only, but three have since been added ; and as the interior parts become more cultivated, it is likely the number of states will increase. Believe me, with compliments to the Middleton family, your affectionate brother,

HENRY FRANKLIN.

LETTER III.

Arthur Middleton to his Mother.

Washington.

DEAR MOTHER,

WE made our first excursion from Philadelphia, through the states of New Jersey and Delaware.

The South Mountain, which is one ridge of the great Allegany range, crosses New Jersey, and contains amazing quantities of iron ore. The interior part of the country is agreeably varied with small hills ; but towards the south, near the sea, it is flat and sandy, with few trees, except shrub oaks, and the white and yellow pines. Apple orchards are very frequent ; and produce fine fruit, as I suppose, from the excellent cider which we found in almost every house where we stopped in the province.

C

Trenton