

the laws, they are obliged to stand up, and speak uncovered. All the members, when thirsty, go indiscriminately to drink out of a jug which stands in a recess in the hall, and which the servant keeps constantly filled with water. About ten years ago, not more than one or two glasses were to be found in the richest houses in America, however numerous the company might be. Even to this day, in most taverns, every one is obliged to drink in his turn, under pain of being thought unpolite.

There are at Lancaster men of all trades, and it is probable that considerable manufactories will soon be established. The rivers which intersect this country present to speculators means certain of success. On these small rivers five mills are built, which supply the markets of Philadelphia with flour at all seasons. There are some mills, containing six mill-stones, to which five men are sufficient. By a mill of this kind, one hundred barrels of flour will be prepared in twenty-four hours, for which the cultivators receive, besides other necessities, money, which they employ in the improvement of their lands. At some distance from Lancaster, a numerous and wealthy company has been formed to promote the culture of the vine in the state of Pennsylvania.

Among the different manufactories at Lancaster, is one for rifles, which the inhabitants of the Western countries, and also many Indian nations, employ for hunting. It is to these arms that the Americans owe many of the victories which they obtained during the war.

After having remained three days at Lancaster, I continued the road to Harrisburg, which is distant forty miles. The adjacent land is good, and well cultivated; and the houses, although distant from each other, announce the opulence of their inhabitants. They are built of large pieces of wood, carefully made square, and the interstices filled up with stones and mortar. The proprietor consoles himself for the want of their solidity by the facility and small expence of rebuilding them. Elizabethtown, eighteen miles from Lancaster, and Middletown, which is a little farther, are two small villages, badly situated, and badly built. The river Susquehanna, which is near Middletown, recompensed us in some measure for the unpleasantness of the road. The left bank presents a fine and rich plain well cultivated and populous. That on the right is bordered by hills, ornamented with magnificent forests, which supply Maryland with its finest timber. Although the Susquehanna is only navigable in summer, yet the neighbouring countries carry on an extensive trade with Baltimore