

We had many advantages from the company of these guides, were perfectly acquainted with that part of the country, and being of the fix Nations they were both a credit and protection; and, also as we went to accommodate the differences, and allay the Heart-burnings that had been raised by a late skirmish on the back of *Virginia* between some of these nations and the *Englilh*, we could not but derive a confidence from the company of a chief.

We coasted the river near a mile to the ford, where we had a good bottom not above 3 feet deep; this brought us to an Island near 2 miles long and a quarter broad, pretty rich at the lower end, and near the river, but the higher end sandy, from the drift left there by the floods, it therefore produces little but *pitch pine*. After leaving the lower end where we saw several cabbins, we once more took water for the opposite shore, but the bottom is less even, though not above half as wide as the last, which is about 400 yards.

Hence leaving the west branch about half a mile on our left, and rich low ground between with gravel, oak and pitch-pine land on our right, we reached a pretty spring of good water, situated between the swamp and dry ground. This, since our passage over the *Blue Mountain* was the only one we met with till we came near *Onondago*, for on that side