

less wilds, when spent with hunger and fatigue, can have a competent idea of the spaces that intervene between town and town, sometimes between one human habitation and another.

We must have seen a good deal of the globe we inhabit to form a just notion of the overwhelming extent of its surface, in proportion to the pigmy race, to whom animal nature has been subjected, by the Creator of all things. And, after all, the imagination is unavoidably confounded, amidst the boundless sands which occupy the internal parts of Africa and Asia. It has often revived my own humility to span their extent upon the maps in my study. And when I compare the desert of Zarah, for instance, with the island of Great Britain, and perceive that in its vacant spaces there would be room for ten such islands, with all its millions of civilized inhabitants, I am ready to exclaim, with Job—

Lord! what is man, that thou shouldest set thine heart upon him?
And that thou shouldest visit him every morning,
And try him every moment?

Having passed Burlington, the capital of Vermont, in the night, next morning, after breakfast, we were called up to see the British flag flying at Illinois (Isle aux Noix as the French call it) and his majesty's crown over the gate-way, at the stairs leading to the officers' house, a handsome building, with rather a fantastic air, from being built of squared logs painted in alternate stripes of white and grey; green varandas, as light as gossamer, in the centre and at each end; the whole surmounted with a heavy pediment, and a tinned cupola, the openings of which are glazed, to make it a comfortable lookout.

I observed nothing particular in the fortifications at Illinois; but a sweet little cottage struck my eye, as we passed, connected with a string of convenient out-houses, a little garden before them, running to the water's edge, with covered seats, of elegant simplicity, in which, in all probability, some British officer, and the fair companion of his voluntary exile, indulge their recollection of happier auspices and a forsaken home.

As we ran by the place, a boat put off to exchange papers, with three young marines, in Scotch bonnets and trim uniforms, to whom our captain threw a rope; but so little dexterous were they in managing it, that they had like to have overset the boat before they reached us. They were, however, insensible of their danger, and I remember one of them showed a very fine set of teeth, as he laughed with the bystanders at his own absurdity.