

foreign
avidity,
uation of
s soon as
he would
ened that
st others,
s shocked
interested
y wish to
e of such
ivers, the
nder scale
lamed him
that inha-
tinent: he
with them

ntion, Mr.
aving been
mestic life,
his brother,
y at home.
s made to
to explore
e authentic
he natives,
ettlers; the
the face of
that could
contribute

contribute to a complete description of that vast portion of the terraqueous globe. This was an undertaking for which he was particularly qualified by his natural endowments, habits, and acquired knowledge. His understanding was clear, his constitution strong, his courage undismayed, his pursuit of knowledge insatiable, and he was in the prime of life. He had read a great deal, travelled much, and observed accurately what he had seen. With a mind so enriched, and a disposition congenial to the task, he was the man peculiarly adapted to his patron's design. The offer was no sooner made than accepted; for how could he refuse a scheme so agreeable to his taste. During the short time that was necessary to arrange his private affairs, he was a frequent visitor at Mrs. Middleton's, where the conversation generally turned upon his voyage, or some circumstance relative to it. Arthur always listened attentively to this subject, would often bring the map, and request him to trace his intended route; his eyes sparkling with pleasure whilst he mentioned different objects likely to occur in various parts of the country.

His desire to accompany his friend at length became so ardent, that Mrs. Middleton changed her views for him, and yielded to his inclination; a measure in which she more easily concurred, from the high confidence she placed in the character and conduct of Mr. Franklin. Her consent once obtained,