

in the national language, the greatest part do not understand sufficient English to be able to conduct their business with those that speak it. Brought up in the bosom of their families, and employed from their infancy in labour and agriculture, they are not anxious for public employments, for which they know themselves unqualified. They prefer an active, laborious, and retired life to distinctions and dignities. If the Germans have not adopted the language of the Anglo-Americans, neither have they been infected with their vices. The only one they have in common with them is drunkenness, which they do not carry to the same excess. They are neither quarrelsome nor distrustful.

On the day of our departure from Philadelphia, we arrived at Lancaster to dinner, although this town is more than sixty-six miles distant. The trade of this country being very considerable, and carried on by land, the States have constructed a road, which is regularly kept in repair, at the expence of travellers. There are five bars, at each of which a trifling sum is demanded. Provisions of all sorts are conveyed to Philadelphia in waggons for consumption or exportation. Lancaster is the market of Philadelphia, and the greatest part of the southern provinces. It is well built, and capable of containing six thousand persons. The assembly of the States have for some time met at this town, being the most central. The inhabitants are, for the most part, Germans and Dutch, and profess the reformed religion. The Roman Catholics are also in great numbers.

Four great streets, ornamented with footways, compose almost the whole of the town. Those which are not yet paved, scarcely permit carriages to pass through them. The States have determined to do this repair, so necessary to commerce, by means of four lotteries, which are to be drawn every year until the work is completed.

The day after my arrival I was present at the assembly of the States. By the politeness of some of the members, I was admitted into the hall, where the door-keeper presented me a chair. I observed that petitions are presented to the president. Having read them, he communicates them to the assembly, who order them, if proper, a second and third reading; or they are referred to a committee appointed to make a report.

The senate is an authority interposed between the governor of the state, and the assembly of the representatives of the people; it is composed of a number of members equal to one-fourth of the representatives.

Each representative, or senator, sits upon a wooden chair, and has before him a little table, on which he places his papers; but many, instead of using it for this purpose, sit upon it, and never change their posture, unless addressing the president; for, by

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