

commonly a bed of limestone. The vales in the northern states are also very productive.

AGRICULTURE.—In agriculture the Americans are well skilled, and are eager to adopt the advantages of English experience. The late great president Washington was himself an excellent farmer; and it is computed that at least three parts in four of the inhabitants of the United States are employed in agriculture.—This free and vigorous yeomanry may well be regarded as the chief glory of any state; and commerce will import sufficient opulence to enable them to promote every possible improvement. Agriculture particularly flourishes in New England and Pennsylvania. The practice of land-jobbing, and other tendencies to monopoly, ought carefully to be repressed: such, however, is the progress of agriculture, that the states are enabled, almost yearly, to increase the exportation of grain and flour. In 1786 Pennsylvania exported 150,000 barrels of flour; in 1789 no less than 369,618 barrels.—Among the numerous products are wheat, rye, barley, buck wheat, oats, beans, peas, and maize, the last a native grain. In Virginia some rice is cultivated, and is found to succeed well on the banks of the Ohio. The German spelt, a valuable product, is also sown in Pennsylvania; and in several provinces hemp and flax are considerable objects of agriculture. The culture of turnips, and some other vegetables common on English farms, seems as yet to draw little attention; but many cultivated grasses are sown, and in Virginia there are lucern, cinquefoil, burnet, red, white, and yellow clover, &c. That invaluable plant the potatoe is a native of the country; and there is a sort called groundnuts, which some particularly relish. There are several kinds of melons and cucumbers. Hops are also cultivated: and it is almost unnecessary to add tobacco, a well known product of Virginia, which opulent province bears a considerable resemblance in culture and manners to our West Indian settlements. Orchards are favourite objects; and cyder is a common beverage in the northern and middle states. The excellent Newtown apple grows near New York. Peaches are greatly cultivated in Virginia, where the peach brandy is noted; and there are also excellent apricots and nectarines.

RIVERS.—The chief rivers of the United States have already been described in the brief general view of North America; but a few may

be here mentioned of a more confined course, and more particularly belonging to the United territory. That great western boundary the Mississippi, besides the celebrated Ohio, pervading the centre of the United territory from east to west, receives many other considerable streams, among which is the Illinois, or in the French mode Illinois, which waters extensive and fertile meadows. More northern streams, flowing into the Mississippi, are the Wisconsin, the Chipaway, and the river St. Croix. The noble stream of the Ohio receives from the north the Great and Little Miami, and the Wabash: from the south the Great Kennaway, the Kentucky, the Green River, and above all the Cumberland and the Tennessee; while the country on the west of Georgia is watered by several streams which join the gulf of Mexico.

Among the numerous rivers which flow, on the east, into the Atlantic, may be mentioned the liminary stream of St. Croix, the Penabscot, the Kennebec, the Saco, the Merimac, the Connecticut, a long and distinguished stream, which gives name to the province, but which yields in length and grandeur to the Hudson river, which rising from several lakes in the northern parts of New York, flows into the ocean near the flourishing city of that name. The river Delaware, which washes Philadelphia, being joined by numerous streams, is more remarkable for its width than the length of its course. The Susquehanna is distinguished by both these attributes, and after a long and circuitous progress forms the chief contributory stream to the bay of Chesapeake; which also receives the Patomak and the Fluvanna, or James River. The Patomak is not only distinguished as the seat of the new capital, but for its irruption through the Blue Ridge of the Apalachian Mountains, being first joined by the Shenandoa, a considerable river from the south. The range, however, consists of broken rocks, and the scene yields greatly in sublimity to the passage of the Lauricocha or false Maranon, through the Andes, worn into perpendicular walls of stupendous height and length. Further to the south the chief rivers flow west into the Ohio. But the Black water and Staunton join the Roanok inlet: and Pamlico Sound receives a river of the same name. That of Cape Fear, the Pedee, the Santee, the Savannah, and the Altamaha of Georgia, close the list of the chief rivers of the United States.

LAKES.—Besides the great lakes which form