

finest rivers on this vast continent and at a point where it spread out into a wide expanse forming a beautiful lake. The scite was on the gentle declivity which shelved down to the water's edge; while rushing through it was a small rivulet, which fell in beautiful natural cascades, as if impatient to mingle its waters in the larger lake; while the impetuosity with which it hurried on made it applicable, when the time should come to assist the labours of man in driving hydraulic machinery; and at the present moment it conveyed a cheering and enlivening effect to the scene. But few buildings were yet erected; for this village was only the child of yesterday; among these stood one, on the most conspicuous, and by far the most welcome to the eyes of our travellers,—it was the Inn or Tavern as denoted by a high gibbet looking pole which stood at the door with a board swung from a cross beam at the top and which vibrating with the breeze seemed to fann the passengers towards the house. At a little distance from this stood the blacksmith's shop, where in the darkning of the twilight the workmen still busied at the forge might have conveyed to the passing traveller the indefinite idea of the workshop of Cyclops while their brawney forms passed and repassed their fires—shining brilliant amidst the contrasted gloom of the surrounding woods. The shoe maker, that highly important individual in every village establishment had not yet obtained “a local habitation,” and was for the present accomodated with a corner in the kitchen or great hall of the Inn, where he hammered lustily in his vocation. The tailor in those embryo cities is not so essential an appendage—for while the merchant (called in the phraseology of the country, “the store-keeper”) could bring to the spot “ready made clothes to sell” every industrious female helpmate was adequate to repair the breaches of tear and wear in her own family. A little higher up the ascent, and placed in a more commanding and conspicuous position stood the house of “the Captain,” the first man in the village—who by virtue of his rank in life, which gave him a right to command, and clothed with a commission as a justice of the peace; which gave the sanction of law to his orders—was considered as the premier, president, director, adviser and supreme judge, over this infant settlement. A few other habitations, erected on scattered lots, by individuals; some living by the milk of their cows—some by the cabbages their little gardens produced—and some by the means of daily labour, constituted the whole of this nucleus, which may in time become an extensive rich and flourishing city. Our travellers quitting their boat soon made their way to the Inn, and on reaching it found the usual evening coterie assembled round the blazing hearth. There were no guests, for the weekly return of the boat, in a country where no roads are opened through the forest, was the only conveyance by which travellers could easily reach this remote spot. Still the group assembled here was not devoid of interest. In one corner sat the son of Crispin, formerly mentioned; who still pallied his hammer and awl—and in the intervals between each peg and stitch, joined in the conversation.—Next to him was the store-keeper, who having “shut up shop” for the day was lolling carelessly on his chair, having pois'd it on the two back legs, while the key of his shop dangling from