

shores, both of the bay and the river, are low, and covered with forests, except in a few places, where they are supplanted by extensive marshes. Nearer to Philadelphia the shores became more elevated, and, on the Delaware side especially, are enlivened with numberless neat farm-houses, towns, and villages.

At a distance, the city makes a noble appearance; but the confused heap of wooden store-houses and wharfs, that jut out into the river, gave me a mean opinion of it, on our first approach, which was not improved by the dirt and narrowness of Water-street, through which we passed to our inn. The mention of the inn brings to my recollection my surprise, at being shown into a room already occupied by all the other guests in the house. Mr. Franklin ordered a private apartment, but none was to be had. At night it was far more disagreeable, for we were obliged to sleep in a chamber furnished with five or six beds, and filled with people whose faces we had never seen before. I was so fatigued, that I forgot the whole matter in five minutes; but Mr. Franklin remonstrated with the master of the house, on the impropriety of huddling strangers together in that manner; but without any effect, for he had no idea of such refinement, and said, that it was the custom of the country, to which travellers must submit.

The city is built according to a most beautiful