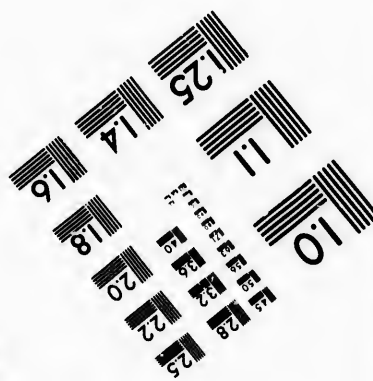
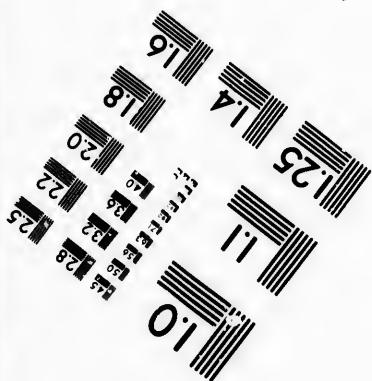
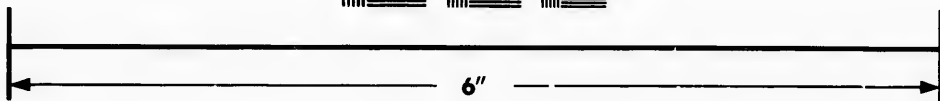
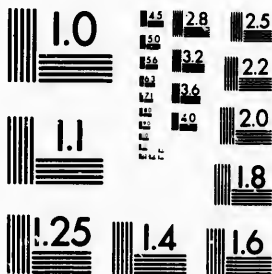


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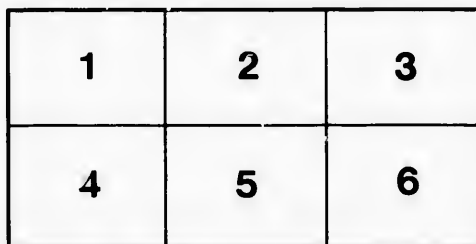
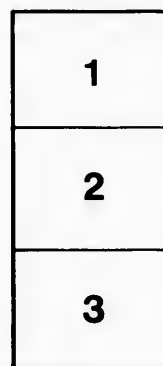
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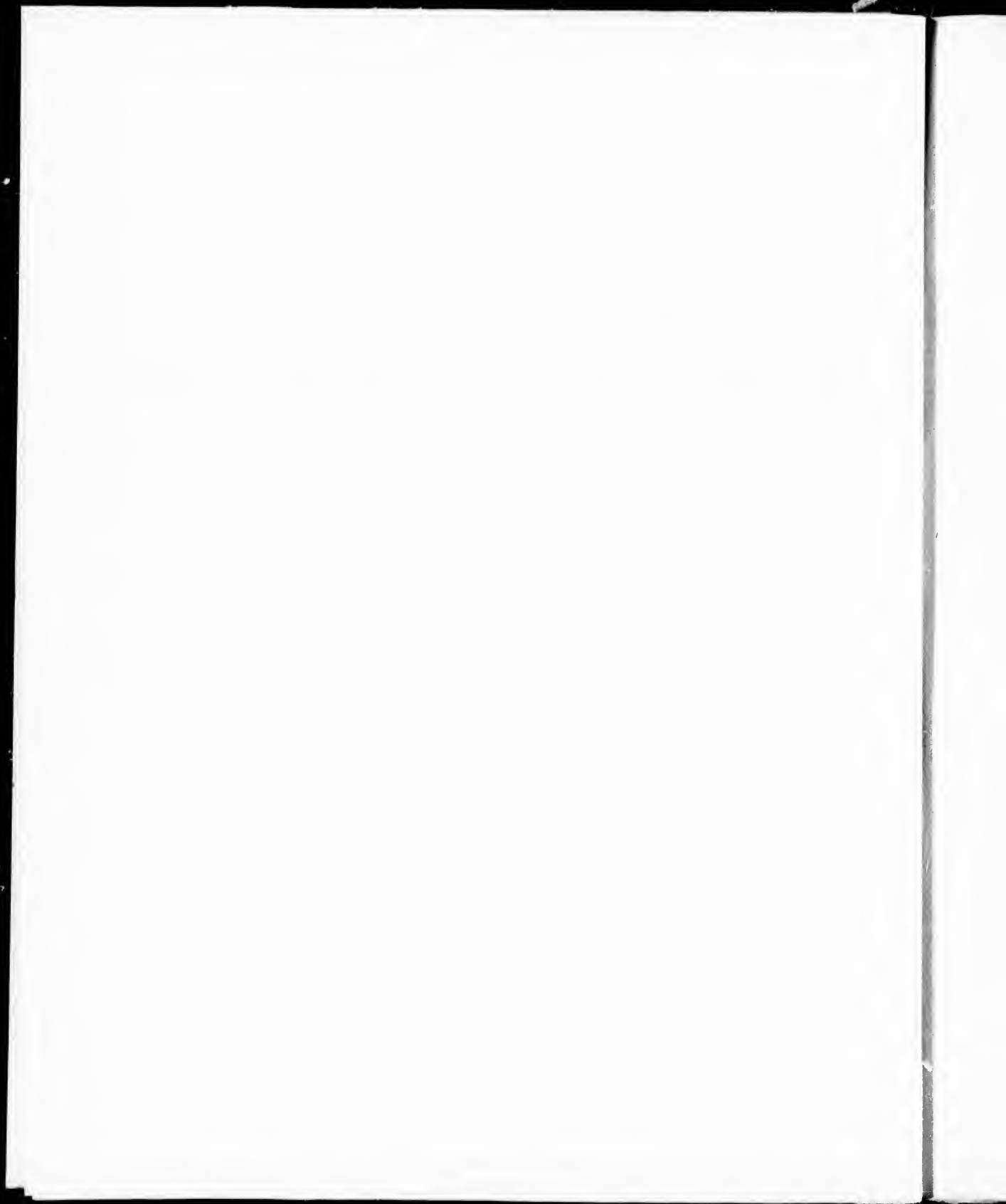
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T R A V E L S

THROUGH THE

MIDDLE SETTLEMENTS

I N

N O R T H - A M E R I C A ,

In the Years 1759 and 1760.

W I T H

O B S E R V A T I O N S

U P O N T H E

S T A T E O F T H E C O L O N I E S .

BY THE REV. ANDREW BURNABY, A. M.

VICAR OF GREENWICH.

L O N D O N ,

Printed for T. PAYNE, at the Mews Gate.

MDCCLXXV.

357.

INTRODUCTION.

A Few days before I embarked for America, being in a coffee-house with some friends, and discoursing of things relative to that country, an elderly gentleman advancing towards the box where we were sitting, addressed himself to me in the following manner: "Sir," said he, "you are young, and just entering into the world; I am old, and upon the point of leaving it: allow me therefore to give you one piece of advice, which is the result of experience, and which may possibly, some time or other, be of use to you. You are going to a country where every thing will appear new and wonderful to you; but it will appear so only for a while; for the novelty of it will daily wear off; and in time it will grow quite familiar to you. Let me, therefore, recommend to you to note in your pocket-book every circumstance, that may make an impression upon you; for be assured, sir, though it may afterward appear familiar and uninteresting to yourself, that it will not appear so to your friends who have never visited that country, and that they will be entertained by it."

The following observations were the result of this advice: they were written upon the several spots to which they refer; and were intended for no other purpose, than that of serving as memorandums. They appeared, by the time that I returned to Europe, according to the gentleman's prediction, so very familiar to me, that I scarcely thought them deserving of the

perusal of my friends. Some of these, however, were so obliging as to bestow upon them that trouble; and it is by their advice, and the consideration of the present critical situation of affairs, that I now submit them to the judgment of the public.—Whatever may be their merit, which I fear is but small, one thing I can assure the reader of, I believe, they are generally true. They are the fruit of the most impartial inquiries, and best intelligence, that I was able to procure in the different colonies which I visited. If I have been led into any error, or misrepresented any thing, it has been undesignedly: a spirit of party is universally prevalent in America, and it is not always an easy matter to arrive at the knowledge of truth; but I believe, in general, I have been pretty successful. I conversed indiscriminately with persons of all parties, and endeavoured, by allowing for prejudices and collating their different accounts, to get at the true one. If I have any doubt myself about any particular part of the following observations (and it is one in which I wish I may be found to have been misinformed), it is that which relates to the character of the Rhode-Islanders. I was exceedingly ill at that place, and had not the same opportunity of procuring information as elsewhere. I conversed with but few gentlemen in that colony, and they were principally of one party, but they were gentlemen of such universal good character, that I could not but rely in some measure on the accounts which they favoured me with. Some allowance, however, I did make for prejudice, and I am desirous that the reader should make a still larger one; indeed, I should be
happy

happy to stand corrected in regard to what I have said of that people, as no one can have less pleasure in speaking unfavourably of mankind than myself.

I have studiously avoided all technical or scientific terms; such to the informed reader are unnecessary, to the uninformed one they are useless and perplexing: in relations of this kind, they have always an appearance of affectation and pedantry.

For the most valuable part of the following collection, I mean the Diary of the Weather, I am intirely indebted to my esteemed friend, Francis Fauquier esq, son to the late worthy lieutenant-governor of Virginia, who very obligingly transmitted it to me from Williamsburg, while I was chaplain to the British factory at Leghorn; and has allowed me to make the use of it which I have here done.

The present unhappy differences subsisting amongst us, with regard to America, will, I am sensible, expose the publication of this account to much censure and criticism; but I can truly aver, that I have been led to it, by no party motive whatsoever. My first attachment, as it is natural, is to my native country; my next is to America; and such is my affection for both, that I hope nothing will ever happen to dissolve that union, which is so necessary to their common happiness. Let every Englishman and American, but for a moment or two, substitute themselves in each other's place, and, I think, a mode of reconciliation will soon take effect.—Every American will then perceive the reasonableness, of acknowledging the supremacy

premacy of the British legislature; and every Englishman perhaps, the hardship of being taxed where there is no representation, or assent.

There is scarcely any such thing, I believe, as a perfect government, and solecisms are to be found in all. The present disputes are seemingly the result of one.—Nothing can be more undeniable than the supremacy of parliament over the most distant branches of the British empire: for although the king being esteemed, in the eye of the law, the original proprietor of all the lands in the kingdom; all lands, upon defect of heirs to succeed to an inheritance, escheat to the king; and all new discovered lands vest in him: yet in neither case can he exempt them from the jurisdiction of the legislature of the kingdom.

He may grant them, under leases or charters, to individuals or companies; with liberty of making rules and regulations for the internal government and improvement of them; but such regulations must ever be consistent with the laws of the kingdom, and subject to their controul.

On the other hand, I am extremely dubious, whether it be consistent with the general principles of liberty (with those of the British constitution, I think, it is not), to tax where there is no representation: the arguments hitherto adduced from Manchester and Birmingham, and other great towns, not having representatives, are foreign to the subject; at least they are by no means equal to it;—for every inhabitant, possessed of forty shillings freehold, has a vote in the election of mem-
bers

bers for the county: but it is not the persons, but the property of men that is taxed, and there is not a foot of property in this kingdom, that is not represented.

It appears then, that certain principles exist in the British constitution, which militate with each other; the reason of their doing so is evident; it was never supposed that they would extend beyond the limits of Great Britain, or affect so distant a country as America. It is much to be wished, therefore, that some expedient could be thought of, to reconcile them.

The conduct of the several administrations, that have had the direction of the affairs of this kingdom, has been reciprocally arraigned; but, I think, without reason; for, all things considered, an impartial and dispassionate mind, will find many excuses to allege in justification of each.—The fewest, I am afraid, are to be pleaded in favour of the Americans, for they settled in America under charters, which expressly reserved to the British Parliament the authority, whether consistent or not consistent, now asserted. Although, therefore, they had a right to make humble representations to his majesty in parliament, and to shew the impropriety and inconvenience of enforcing such principles, yet they had certainly no right to oppose them.

Expedients may still be found, it is to be hoped however, to conciliate the present unhappy differences, and restore harmony again between Great Britain and her colonies; but whatever measures may be adopted by parliament, I am sure, it is the
the

the duty and interest of America to submit. — But it is impertinent to enter any further into the discussion of a subject, which is at this time under the deliberation of the most august assembly in the world. I will, therefore, conclude with a sincere prayer, that whatever measures may be adopted, they may be different in their issue, from what the fears of men generally lead them to preconceive; and that, if they be coercive ones, they may be enforced, which, I am persuaded, is practicable, without the effusion of a single drop of blood: if lenient ones, which are preferable, and which I think equally practicable, without any loss or diminution of the dignity or interest of this kingdom.

Greenwich,
Jan. 23^d, 1775.

T R A V E L S

T H R O U G H T H E

M I D D L E S E T T L E M E N T S

I N

N O R T H - A M E R I C A .

ON Friday the 27th of April 1759, I embarked, in company with several North-American gentlemen, on board the Dispatch, captain Necks, for Virginia; and the next day we set sail from Spithead, under convoy of his majesty's ship the Lynn, captain Sterling, commander, with thirty-three sail of trading vessels. We came to an anchor in the evening in Yarmouth Road, and the next day sailed with a fresh easterly wind through the Needles. Anno 1759.

We passed by the Lizard, and in the evening discovered a sail, which proved to be an English sloop laden with corn. She had been taken by a French privateer, and was making her way for France: there were three Frenchmen and one Englishman on board. The commodore sent some hands to her, with orders to carry her to Penzance. April 30.

Thick, hazy weather with a fair wind. A large ship passed through the fleet about four o'clock in the afternoon: and in May 1.

B

the

TRAVELS THROUGH NORTH-AMERICA.

1759. the evening another vessel bore down upon the sternmost ships, and spoke with them.
- May 2. Fair, pleasant weather. The next day we found by our reckoning that we had made a hundred leagues from the Land's End.
- May 4. Strong, violent gales at north and by west. In the evening the Molly, captain Chew, had her main-top-mast carried away, and hoisted out a signal of distress.
- May 5. From this time to the 14th, nothing remarkable happened: the wind was seldom fair; but the weather being moderate, we made frequent visits, and passed our time very agreeably.
- May 14. Captain Necks fell ill of a fever, and continued indisposed several days: he began to mend about the 17th.
- May 19. In the afternoon, a sudden and violent squall from the north-west obliged us to lye-to under our reefed main-sail: it continued to increase, and blew a storm for about thirty-six hours, when it began to moderate.
- May 21. We made sail in the forenoon, with about four ships in company; and the next day in the evening were joined by eighteen more. From that time to the 28th, nothing remarkable happened: we had generally pleasant weather, but adverse winds. We frequently visited; and were much entertained with seeing grampuses, turtles, bonetas, porpoises, flying and other fish, common in the Atlantic.
- May 28. We discovered a large sail; she directed her course towards the east. We took her to be an English man of war going express. She carried three top-gallant sails.
- May 31. We spoke with a sloop bound from Antigua to London. She acquainted the commodore with the agreeable news of his majesty's forces at Guadaloupe having reduced that whole island under subjection to the British government. The wind still continued unfavourable.

We

WILLIAMSBURG. VIRGINIA.

3

We spoke with a snow from Carolina, who informed the commodore, that a French frigate was cruising off the Capes of Virginia. From that time to the 11th, we had nothing remarkable. The wind was generally from west to north-west, and there were frequent squalls with lightning. We saw several bonetas, grampuses, albigores, and fish of different kinds. 1759. June 5.

The water appeared discoloured; and we concluded that we were upon the Banks of Newfoundland: we cast the lead, but found no ground. The weather was thick and hazy. Nothing remarkable happened from this time to the 3d of July: we had pleasant weather, though now and then squalls with lightning. We fell in with several currents and had variable winds. June 11.

We had fine weather, with a gentle breeze at N. W. We were now, according to the commodore's reckoning (which we afterward found to be true), about sixty leagues from land. The air was richly scented with the fragrance of the pines. July 3.

We saw a great many sloops, from whence we imagined that we were near the coast. The wind was at east by north. July 4.

About six in the morning we caught some green fish: upon this we sounded, and found eighteen fathom water. At ten we discovered land, which proved to be Cape Charles; and about three hours afterward sailed through the capes into Chesapeake-Bay. The commodore took his leave to go upon a cruise; and at eight in the evening we came to an anchor in York-River, after a tedious and disagreeable voyage of almost ten weeks. July 5.

The next morning having hired a chaise at York, I went to Williamsburg, about twelve miles distant. The road is exceedingly pleasant, through some of the finest tobacco plantations in North-America, with a beautiful view of the river and woods of great extent.

WILLIAMSBURG. VIRGINIA.

1759.

Williamsburg is the capital of Virginia: it is situated between two creeks; one falling into James, the other into York River; and is built nearly due east and west. The distance of each landing-place is something more than a mile from the town; which, with the disadvantage of not being able to bring up large vessels, is the reason of its not having increased so fast as might have been expected. It consists of about two hundred houses, does not contain more than one thousand souls, whites and negroes; and is far from being a place of any consequence. It is regularly laid out in parallel streets, intersected by others at right angles; has a handsome square in the center, through which runs the principal street, one of the most spacious in North-America, three quarters of a mile in length, and above a hundred feet wide. At the ends of this street are two public buildings, the college and the capitol: and although the houses are of wood, covered with shingles, and but indifferently built, the whole makes a handsome appearance. There are few public edifices that deserve to be taken notice of: those, which I have mentioned, are the principal; and they are far from being magnificent. The governor's palace, indeed, is tolerably good, one of the best upon the continent; but the church, the prison, and the other buildings, are all of them extremely indifferent. The streets are not paved, and consequently very dusty, the soil hereabout consisting chiefly of sand: however, the situation of Williamsburg has one advantage, which few or no places in these lower parts have; that of being free from mosquitoes. Upon the whole, it is an agreeable residence; there are ten or twelve gentleman's families constantly residing in it, besides merchants and tradesmen. And at the times of the assemblies, and general courts, it is crowded with the gentry of the country: on those occasions there are balls and other amusements;
but

but as soon as the business is finished, they return to their country houses; and the town is in a manner deserted.

1759.

The situation of Virginia (according to Evans's Map) is between the 36th and 40th degrees of north lat. and about 76 degrees west long. from London. It is bounded on the north by the river Potowmac, on the east by the Atlantic Ocean, by Carolina on the south, and, to include only what is inhabited, by the great Alleghenny on the west.

The climate is extremely fine, though subject to violent heats in the summer: Farenheit's thermometer being generally for three months from 85 to 95 degrees high. The other seasons, however, make ample amends for this inconvenience: for the autumns and springs are delightful, and the winters so mild and serene (though there are now and then excessive cold days) as scarcely to require a fire. The only complaint that a person can reasonably make, is, of the very sudden changes which the weather is liable to; for this being intirely regulated by the winds, is exceedingly variable. Southerly winds are productive of heat, northerly of cold, and easterly of rain; from hence it is no uncommon thing for the thermometer to fall many degrees in a very few hours; and, after a warm day, to have such severe cold, as to freeze over a river a mile broad in one night's time*. In summer there are frequent and violent gusts with thunder and lightning; but as the country is very thinly inhabited, and most of the gentry have electrical rods to their houses, they are not attended with many fatal accidents. Now and then, indeed, some of the negroes lose their lives; and

* On the 19th of December, 1759, being upon a visit to colonel Washington, at Mount-Vernor, upon the river Potowmac, where it is two miles broad, I was greatly surpris'd to find the river intirely frozen over in the space of one night, when the preceding day had been mild and temperate.

1759.

it is not uncommon in the woods, to see trees torn and riven to pieces by their fury and violence. A remarkable circumstance happened some years ago at York, which is well attested: a person standing at his door during a thunder gust, was unfortunately killed; there was an intermediate tree at some distance, which was struck at the same time; and when they came to examine the body, they found the tree delineated upon it in miniature. Part of the body was livid, but that which was covered by the tree was of its natural colour.

I believe no country has more certainly proved the efficacy of electrical rods, than this: before the discovery of them, these gusts were frequently productive of melancholy consequences; but now it is rare to hear of such instances. It is observable that no house was ever struck, where they were fixed: and although it has frequently happened that the rods themselves have been melted, or broken to pieces, and the houses scorched along the sides of them, which manifested that they had received the stroke, but that the quantity of lightning was too great to be carried off by the conductor, yet never has any misfortune happened; such a direction having been given to the lightning, as to prevent any danger or ill consequence. These circumstances, one would imagine, should induce every person to get over those prejudices which many have entertained; and to consider the neglect, rather than the use of them as criminal, since they seem to be means put into our hands by Providence, for our safety and protection.

The soil of Virginia is in general good. There are indeed barrens where the lands produce nothing but pine-trees; but taking the whole tract together, it is certainly fertile. The low grounds upon the rivers and creeks are exceedingly rich, being loam intermingled with sand: and the higher you go up
in

in the country, towards the mountains, the value of the land increases; for it grows more strong, and of a deeper clay.

1759.

Virginia, in its natural state, produces great quantities of fruits and medicinal plants, with trees and flowers of infinitely various kinds. Tobacco and Indian corn are the original produce of the country; likewise the pigeon-berry and rattlesnake-root, so esteemed in all ulcerous and pleuretical complaints: grapes, strawberries, hickory nuts, mulberries, chestnuts, and several other fruits, grow wild and spontaneously.

Besides trees and flowers of an ordinary nature, the woods produce myrtles, cedars, cypresses, sugar trees, firs of different sorts, and no less than seven or eight kinds of oak; they are likewise adorned and beautified with red flowering maples, sassafras trees, dog-woods, acacias, red-buds, scarlet flowering chestnuts, fringe trees, flowering poplars, umbrellas, magnolias, yellow jasmines, chamædaphnes, pacoons, atamusco lilies, May-apples, and innumerable other sorts; so that one may reasonably assert that no country ever appeared with greater elegance or beauty.

Not to notice too the almost numberless creeks and rivulets which every where abound, it is watered by four large rivers of such safe navigation, and such noble and majestic appearance, as not to be exceeded, perhaps, in the whole known world.

James river, which was formerly called Powhatan, from its having been the seat of that emperor, is seven miles broad at the mouth, navigable to the falls (above 150 miles) for vessels of large burden, and from thence to the mountains for small craft and canoes.

The falls are in length about six or seven miles; they consist of innumerable breaks of water, owing to the obstruction of the current by an infinite number of rocks, which are scattered over the bed of the river; and form a most picturesque and beautiful cascade.

The

1759.

The honourable colonel Byrd has a small place called Belvedere, upon a hill at the lower end of these falls, as romantic and elegant as any thing I have ever seen. It is situated very high, and commands a fine prospect of the river, which is half a mile broad, forming cataracts in the manner above described; there are several little islands scattered carelessly about, very rocky, and covered with trees; and two or three villages in view at a small distance. Over all these you discover a prodigious extent of wilderness, and the river winding majestically along through the midst of it.

York river, for about forty miles, to a place called West Point, is confined in one channel about two miles broad: it flows in a very direct course, making but one angle, and that an inconsiderable one, during the whole way. At West Point it forks, and divides itself into two branches; the southward called Pamunky; the northward Mattapony: each of these branches, including the windings and meanders of the river, is navigable seventy or eighty miles, and a considerable way of this space for large ships.

The Rappahannoc is navigable to the falls, which are a mile above Fredericksburg, and about 110 from the bay. Vessels of large burden may come up to this place; and small craft and canoes may be carried up much higher.

The Potowmac is one of the finest rivers in North America: it is ten miles broad at the mouth, navigable above 200 miles, to Alexandria, for men of war, and, allowing for a few carrying places, for canoes above 200 farther, to the very branches of the Ohio. Colonel Boquet, a Swiss gentleman in the Royal Americans, came down this autumn from Fort Cumberland* to Shenando with very little difficulty; from hence to the great

* From Fort Cumberland to Shenando is above 100 miles; from Shenando to the great falls about 60; and from the great falls to Alexandria about 17 or 18.

falls,

falls, I have been told, a navigation may easily be effected. So that this river seems to promise to be of as great consequence as any in North America.

In all these rivers the tide flows as far as the falls, and at Alexandria it rises between two and three feet. They discharge themselves into Chesapeak Bay, one of the finest in the world, which runs a great way up the country into Maryland; is from ten to twenty miles broad; navigable near a hundred leagues for vessels of almost any burden; and receives into its bosom at least twenty great rivers.

These waters are stored with incredible quantities of fish, such as sheeps-heads, rock-fish, drums, white perch, herrings, oysters, crabs, and several other sorts. Sturgeon and shad are in such prodigious numbers, that one day, within the space of two miles only, some gentlemen in canoes caught above 600 of the former with hooks, which they let down to the bottom, and drew up at a venture when they perceived them to rub against a fish; and of the latter above 5000 have been caught at one single haul of the seine.

In the mountains there are very rich veins of ore; some mines having been already opened which turn to great account; particularly Spotswood's iron mine upon the Rappahannoc, out of which they melt annually above six hundred ton: and one of copper upon the Roanoke, belonging to colonel Chiswell. This last mentioned gentleman is also going to try for lead upon some hunting grounds belonging to the Indians, towards New River, and the Green Briar; where, it is said, there is fine ore, and in great plenty, lying above ground. Some coal mines have also been opened upon James River near the falls, which are likely to answer very well.

The forests abound with plenty of game of various kinds; hares, turkies, pheasants, woodcocks, and partridges, are in

1759.

the greatest abundance. In the marshes are found sorufes, a particular species of bird, more exquisitely delicious than the ortolan, snipes also and ducks of various kinds. The American shell-drake and bluewing exceed all of the duck kind whatsoever; and these are in prodigious numbers. In the woods there are variety of birds remarkable both for singing and for beauty; of which are the mocking-bird, the red-bird or nightingale, the blue-bird, the yellow-bird, the humming-bird*, the Baltimore-bird, the summer-duck, the turtle, and several other sorts.

Reptiles and insects are almost innumerable: some of them, indeed are harmless and beautiful; such as the black-snake, the bead-snake, the garter-snake, the fire-fly, and several sorts of butterflies; but the rattle-snake and viper, and many others are exceedingly venomous and deadly †. Of quadrupeds there are various kinds; squirrels of four or five different species ‡,

* The humming-bird is the smallest and the most beautiful of all the feathered race: its colours are green, crimson, and gold: it lives chiefly by suction upon the sweets and essences of flowers: and nothing can be more curious than to observe numbers of them in gardens where there are honeysuckles or trumpet-flowers, flying from flower to flower, putting their slender bills into every one, and sucking out the sweetest juices. The motion of their wings is incredibly swift, and produces a humming noise, not unlike that of a large humble bee. They are frequently kept in cages, but seldom live longer than two months. The food which is given them, is either honey or sugar, mixed with water. Repeated attempts have been made to send them alive to England, but always without success.

† There are two very curious species of frogs in Virginia; one is called the bull-frog, which is prodigiously large, and makes so loud a noise, that it may be heard at a great distance: the other is a small green frog, which sits upon the boughs of trees, and is found in almost every garden.

See Catesby's Natural History of Carolina.

‡ Of the several species of squirrels, the ground and flying-squirrels are much the smallest and most beautiful. The former are of a dusky orange hue,

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opossums, racoons, foxes, beavers, and deer: and in the deserts and uninhabited parts, wolves, bears, panthers, elks or moose-deer, buffaloes, mountain-cats, and various other sorts. Such are in general the natural productions of this country.

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Viewed and considered as a settlement, Virginia is far from being arrived at that degree of perfection which it is capable of. Not a tenth of the land is yet cultivated: and that which is cultivated, is far from being so in the most advantageous manner. It produces, however, considerable quantities of grain and cattle and fruit of many kinds. The Virginian pork is said to be superior in flavour to any in the world; but the sheep and horned cattle being small and lean, the meat of them is inferior to that of Great Britain, or indeed, of most parts of Europe. The horses are fleet and beautiful; and the gentlemen of Virginia, who are exceedingly fond of horse-racing, have spared no expence or trouble to improve the breed of them by importing great numbers from England.

The fruits introduced here from Europe succeed extremely well; particularly peaches, which have a very fine flavour, and grow in such plenty as to serve to feed the hogs in the autumn of the year. Their blossoms in the spring make a beautiful appearance throughout the country.

streaked with black; the latter grey or ash-coloured, and elegantly formed. These have a spreading or fan-tail, and two membranes adhering to their sides; which when they spring or leap from a tree, they expand, and are thereby enabled to fly through a considerable space. The former are of a very wild nature; but these may be easily, and are frequently tamed.—There is a species of polecat in this part of America, which is commonly called a skunk. This animal, when pursued, or assailed by its enemy, ejects its urine; which emits such a fetid and insupportable stench, as almost to stifle and suffocate whatever is within the reach of it.

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Virginia is divided into fifty-two counties, and seventy-seven parishes, and by act of assembly there ought to be forty-four towns; but one half of these have not more than five houses; and the other half are little better than inconsiderable villages. This is owing to the cheapness of land, and the commodiousness of navigation: for every person may with ease procure a small plantation, can ship his tobacco at his own door, and live independent. When the colony shall come to be more thickly seated, and land grow dear, people will be obliged to follow trades and manufactures, which will necessarily make towns and large cities; but this seems remote, and not likely to happen for some centuries.

The inhabitants are supposed to be in number between two and three hundred thousand. There are a hundred and five thousand titheables, under which denomination are included all white males from sixteen to sixty; and all negroes whatsoever within the same age. The former are obliged to serve in the militia, and amount to forty thousand.

The trade of this colony is large and extensive. Tobacco is the principal article of it. Of this they export annually between fifty and sixty thousand hogheads, each hoghead weighing eight hundred or a thousand weight: some years they export much more. They ship also for the Madciras, the Streights, and the West-Indies, several articles, such as grain, pork, lumber, and cyder: to Great Britain, bar-iron, indigo, and a small quantity of ginseng, though of an inferior quality; and they clear out one year with another about ton of shipping.

Their manufactures are very inconsiderable. They make a kind of cotton-cloth, with which they clothe themselves in common, and call after the name of their country; and some
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inconsiderable quantities of linen, hose, and other trifling articles : but nothing to deserve attention.

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The government is a royal one : the legislature, consisting of a governor appointed by the king ; a council of twelve persons, under the same nomination ; and a house of burgesses, or representatives, of a hundred and eight or ten members, elected by the people ; two for each county, and one for each of the following places, viz. the College of William and Mary, James-town, Norfolk-borough, and Williamsburg. Each branch has a negative.—All laws in order to be permanent, must have the king's approbation ; nor must any be enacted, which may be repugnant to the laws of Great Britain.

The courts of judicature are either county, or general courts. The county courts are held monthly in each county, at a place assigned for that purpose, by the justices thereof : four of them making a quorum. They are appointed by the governor, and take cognizance of all causes, at common law, or in chancery, within their respective counties, except criminal ones, punishable with loss of life, or member. This power they are not permitted to exercise except over negroes and slaves, and then not without a special commission from the governor for each particular purpose *. The general court is held twice a year

* How necessary it may be that they should have such a power, even in this case, I will not pretend to say? but the law which transfers it to them seems so inconsistent with the natural rights of mankind, that I cannot but in pity to humanity recite it.

“ Every slave committing any offence, by law punishable by death, or loss of member, shall be committed to the county goal, and the sheriff of the county shall forthwith certify such commitment, with the cause thereof, to the governor, or commander in chief, who may issue a commission of oyer and terminer to such persons as he shall think fit, which persons, forthwith after the receipt of such commission, shall cause the offender to be

at.

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at Williamsburg. It consists of the governor and council, any five of which make a court. They hear and determine all causes whatsoever, ecclesiastical, or civil, and sit four and twenty days: the first five of these are for hearing and determining suits in chancery appeals from the decrees of the county or inferior courts in chancery; and writs of superseatas to such decrees. The other days are for trying suits or prosecutions in behalf of the king; and all other matters depending in the said court. Appeals are allowed to the king in council, in cases of 500 l. sterling value. The governor has a power of pardoning criminals in all cases, except of treason or murder. And then he can only reprieve till he knows the king's pleasure.

The established religion is that of the church of England; and there are very few Dissenters of any denomination in this province. There are at present between sixty and seventy clergymen; men in general of sober and exemplary lives. They have each a glebe of two or three hundred acres of land, a house, and a salary established by law of 16,000 weight of tobacco, with an allowance of 1700 more for shrinkage. This is delivered to them in hogheads ready packed for exportation, at the most convenient warehouse. The presentation of livings is in the hands of the vestry; which is a standing body of twelve members, invested with the sole power of raising levies, settling the repairs of the church, and regulating other

“ publicly arraigned and tried at the court-house of the said county, and take
 “ for evidence the confession of the offender, the oath of one or more credible witnesses, or such testimony of negroes, mulattoes, or Indians, bond
 “ or free, with pregnant circumstances as to them shall seem convincing,
 “ *without the solemnity of a jury*, and the offender being found guilty, shall
 “ pass such judgment upon him or her as the law directs for the like crimes,
 “ and on such judgment award execution.”

Mercer's Abridgment of the Virginian Laws, p. 342.

paro-

parochial business. They were originally elected by the people of the several parishes; but now fill up vacancies themselves. If the vestry does not present to a living in less than twelve months, it lapses to the governor. The diocesan is the bishop of London; who has a power of appointing a commissary to preside over, and convene the clergy on particular occasions; and to censure, or even suspend them, in cases of neglect or immorality. His salary is 100 l. sterling per annum; and he is generally of the council, which is of equal emolument to him*.

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An unhappy disagreement has lately arisen between the clergy and the laity, which, it is to be feared, may be of serious consequence. The cause of it was this. Tobacco being extremely scarce from a general failure of the crop, the assembly passed an act to oblige the clergy and all public officers to receive their stipends in money instead of tobacco. This the clergy remonstrated against, alledging the hardship of being obliged to take a small price for their tobacco, when it bore an extravagant one; seeing they never had any kind of compensation allowed, when it was so plentiful as to be almost a drug. They sent over an agent to England, and the law was repealed. This greatly exasperated the people; and such is their mutual animosity at this time, that, I fear, it will not easily subside, or be forgotten.

With regard to the law in question, it was certainly a very hard one; and I doubt whether, upon principles of free government, it can be defended; or whether the assembly can legally interpose any farther, than, in cases of necessity, to oblige the clergy to receive their salaries in money instead of to-

* The commissary is commonly president of the college, and has the parish of Williamsburg, or some other lucrative parish, which render him about 350 l. a year: so that his annual income is between 5 and 600 l.

bacco,

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tobacco, at the current price of tobacco. They may, I am persuaded, in cases of exigency, always make, and might then have made, such a law, without any considerable detriment to the colony: for, supposing the price of tobacco to be, what it was at that time, about fifty shillings currency per hundred, what would the whole sum be, were the clergy to be paid ad valorem? Not 20000l. sterling. There are in Virginia, as I observed before, about sixty-five clergymen: each of these is allowed 16,000 weight of tobacco; which, at the rate of fifty shillings currency per hundred, amounts to 400l.; 400l. multiplied by 65, is equal to 26,000 l.; which, allowing 40 per cent. discount, the difference of exchange, is about 18571 l. sterling. Now what is this sum to such a colony as Virginia? But to this it will be said, perhaps, why should the clergy be gainers in a time of public distress, when every one else is a sufferer? The clergy will doubtless reply, and why should the clergy be the only sufferers in plentiful seasons, when all but themselves are gainers? Upon the whole, however, as on the one hand I disapprove of the proceedings of the assembly in this affair, so, on the other, I cannot approve of the steps which were taken by the clergy. That violence of temper; that indecent behaviour towards the governor; that unworthy treatment of their commissary; and, to mention nothing else, that confusion of proceeding in the convention, of which some, though not the majority, as has been invidiously represented, were guilty; these things were surely unbecoming the sacred character they are invested with; and the moderation of those persons, who ought in all things to imitate the conduct of their divine Master. If, instead of flying out in invectives against the legislature; of accusing the governor of having given up the cause of religion by passing the bill; when, in fact, had he rejected it, he would never have been able to have got any supplies

plies during the course of the war, though ever so much wanted; if, instead of charging the commissary with want of zeal for having exhorted them to moderate measures, they had followed the prudent counsels of that excellent man, and had acted with more temper and moderation, they might, I am persuaded, in a very short time, have obtained any redress they could reasonably have desired. The people in general were extremely well affected towards the clergy, and had shewn their regard for them in several instances; they were sensible, moreover, that their salaries were too scanty to support them with dignity, and there had been some talk about raising them: had the clergy, therefore, before they applied to England, only offered a memorial to the assembly, setting forth that they thought the act extremely hard upon them, as their salaries were small; and that they hoped the assembly would take their case into consideration, and enable them to live with that dignity which became their character; I am persuaded from the knowledge which I have of the people in general, and from repeated conversations with several members of the assembly, that they might have obtained almost any thing they could have wished; if not, they undoubtedly would have had reason to appeal. But instead of this, without applying to the assembly for relief, after the act was passed, (for before, indeed, some of them did apply to the speaker in private) they flew out into the most violent invectives, immediately sent over an agent to England, and appealed to his majesty in council. The result has been already related.

The progress of arts and sciences in this colony has been very inconsiderable: the college of William and Mary is the only public place of education, and this has by no means answered the design of its institution. It has a foundation for a president and six professors. The business of the president is to

1759. superintend the whole, and to read four theological lectures annually. He has a handsome house to live in, and 200l. sterling per annum. The professor of the Indian school has 60l. sterling, and a house also; his business is to instruct the Indians in reading, writing, and the principles of the Christian religion: this pious institution was set on foot and promoted by the excellent Mr. Boyle. The professor of humanity has the care of instructing the students in classical learning: he has an usher or assistant under him. The four other professors teach moral philosophy, metaphysics, mathematics, and divinity. Each of the professors has apartments in the college, and a salary of about 80l. per annum*. The present chancellor of the college is the bishop of London.

From what has been said of this colony, it will not be difficult to form an idea of the character † of its inhabitants. The climate and external appearance of the country conspire to make them indolent, easy, and good-natured; extremely fond of society, and much given to convivial pleasures. In consequence of this, they seldom show any spirit of enterprize, or expose themselves willingly to fatigue. Their authority over their slaves renders them vain and imperious, and entire strangers to that elegance of sentiment, which is so peculiarly characteristic of refined and polished nations. Their ignorance of mankind and of learning, exposes them to many errors and prejudices, especially in regard to Indians and Negroes, whom they scarcely consider as of the human species; so that it is almost impossible, in cases of violence, or even murder, committed upon those unhappy people by any of the planters, to have the delinquents brought to justice. For either the

* They have been since raised, I believe, to 100l.

† General characters are always liable to many exceptions. In Virginia I have had the pleasure to know several gentlemen adorned with many virtues and accomplishments, to whom the following description is by no means applicable.
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grand jury refuse to find the bill, or the petit jury bring in their verdict, not guilty*.

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The display of a character thus constituted, will naturally be in acts of extravagance, ostentation, and a disregard of œconomy; it is not extraordinary, therefore, that the Virginians outrun their incomes; and that having involved themselves in difficulties, they are frequently tempted to raise money by bills of exchange, which they know will be returned protested, with 10 per cent. interest †.

* There are two laws in this colony, which make it almost impossible to convict a planter, or white man, of the death of a Negroe or Indian. By the first it is enacted, that "if any slave shall die by reason of any stroke or blow, given in correction by his or her owner, or by reason of any accidental blow whatsoever, given by such owner; no person concerned in such correction, or accidental homicide, shall undergo any prosecution or punishment for the same; unless, upon examination before the county court, it shall be proved by the oath of one lawful and credible witness, at least, that such slave was killed wilfully, maliciously, and designedly; nor shall any person indicted for the murder of a slave, and upon trial found guilty only of manslaughter, incur any forfeiture or punishment for such offence or misfortune." See Mercer's Abridgment, p. 345. By the second, "No Negro, Mulatto, or Indian, can be admitted in any court, or before any magistrate, to be sworn as a witness, or give evidence in any cause whatsoever, except upon the trial of a slave for a capital offence. Mercer's Abridgment, p. 419.

† By an act of assembly, if any bill of exchange is drawn for the payment of any sum of money, and such bill is protested for non-acceptance or non-payment, it carries interest from the date thereof, after the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, until the money be fully satisfied and paid.

A very curious anecdote relative to this law was mentioned to me at Williamsburg, of which I am persuaded the reader will excuse the relation.—An usurer, not satisfied with 5l. per cent. legal interest, refused to advance a sum of money to a gentleman, unless, by way of security, he would give him a bill of exchange that should be returned protested, by which he would be entitled to 10 per cent. The gentleman, who had immediate occasion for the money, sat down and drew a bill upon a capital merchant in London, with whom he

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The public or political character of the Virginians, corresponds with their private one: they are haughty and jealous of their liberties, impatient of restraint, and can scarcely bear the thought of being controuled by any superior power. Many of them consider the colonies as independent states, unconnected with Great Britain, otherwise than by having the same common king, and being bound to her with natural affection. There are but few of them that have a turn for business, and even those are by no means expert at it. I have known them, upon a very urgent occasion, vote the relief of a garrison, without once considering whether the thing was practicable, when it was most evidently and demonstrably otherwise *. In

had never had any transaction, or carried on the least correspondence. The merchant, on the receipt of the bill, observing the name of the drawer, very readily honoured it, knowing the gentleman to be a person of great property, and concluding that he meant to enter into correspondence with him. The usurer upon this became entitled to only 5l. per cent. He was exceedingly enraged, therefore, at being as he supposed thus tricked: and complained very heavily to the gentleman of his having given him a good bill instead of a bad one.

* The garrison here alluded to, was that of Fort Loudoun, in the Cherokee country, consisting of a lieutenant and about fifty men. This unfortunate party being besieged by the Cherokee Indians, and reduced to the last extremity, sent off runners to the governors of Virginia and Carolina, imploring immediate succour; adding that it was impossible for them to hold out above twenty days longer. The assembly of Virginia, commiserating their unhappy situation, very readily voted a considerable sum for their relief. With this, troops were to be levied; were to rendezvous upon the frontiers 200 miles distant from Williamsburg; were afterwards to proceed to the fort 200 miles farther through a wilderness, where there was no road, no magazines, no posts, either to shelter the sick, or cover a retreat in case of any disaster; so that the unfortunate garrison might as effectually have been succoured from the moon. The author taking notice of these difficulties to one of the members, he frankly replied, "Faith, it is true: but we have had an opportunity at least of showing our loyalty." In a few days after arrived the melancholy news, that this unfortunate party was entirely cut off.

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matters of commerce they are ignorant of the necessary principles that must prevail between a colony and its mother-country; they think it a hardship not to have an unlimited trade to every part of the world. They consider the duties upon their staple as injurious only to themselves; and it is utterly impossible to persuade them that they affect the consumer also. Upon the whole, however, to do them justice, the same spirit of generosity prevails here which does in their private character; they never refuse any necessary supplies for the support of government when called upon, and are a generous and loyal people.

The women are, upon the whole, rather handsome, though not to be compared with our fair country-women in England. They have but few advantages, and consequently are seldom accomplished: this makes them reserved, and unequal to any interesting or refined conversation. They are immoderately fond of dancing, and indeed it is almost the only amusement they partake of: but even in this they discover great want of taste and elegance, and seldom appear with that gracefulness and ease, which these movements are so calculated to display. Towards the close of an evening, when the company are pretty well tired with country dances, it is usual to dance jiggs; a practice originally borrowed, I am informed, from the * Negroes. These dances are without any method or regularity: a gentleman and lady stand up, and dance about the room, one of them retiring, the other pursuing, then perhaps meeting, in an irregular fantastical manner. After some time, another lady gets up, and then the first lady must sit down, she being, as they term it, cut out: the second lady acts the same.

* The author has since had an opportunity of observing something similar in Italy. The trescone of the Tuscans is very like the jiggs of the Virginians.

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part which the first did, till somebody cuts her out. The gentlemen perform in the same manner. The Virginian ladies, excepting these amusements chiefly spend their time in sewing and taking care of their families: they seldom read, or endeavour to improve their minds; however, they are in general good housewives; and though they have not, I think, quite so much tenderness and sensibility as the English ladies; yet they make as good wives, and as good mothers, as any in the world.

It is hard to determine whether this colony can be called flourishing, or not: because, though it produces great quantities of tobacco and grain, yet there seem to be very few improvements carrying on it. Great part of Virginia is a wilderness, and as many of the gentlemen are in possession of prodigious tracts of land, it is likely to continue so. A spirit of enterprize is by no means the turn of the colony, and therefore few attempts have been made to force a trade; which I think might easily be done, both to the West-Indies and the Ohio. They have every thing necessary for such an undertaking, viz. lumber, provisions, grain, and every other commodity, which the other colonies, that subsist and grow rich by these means, make use of for exports; but, instead of this, they have only a trifling communication with the West-Indies; and as to the Ohio, they have suffered themselves, notwithstanding the superior advantages they might enjoy from having a water-carriage almost to the Yoghiogheny, to neglect this valuable branch of commerce; while the industrious Pennsylvanians seize every opportunity, and struggle with innumerable difficulties, to secure it to themselves. The Virginians are content, if they can but live from hand to mouth; they confine themselves almost entirely to the cultivation of tobacco; and if they have but enough of this to pay their merchants in London, and to provide for
their

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their pleasures; they are satisfied, and desire nothing more. Some few, indeed, have been rather more enterprising, and have endeavoured to improve their estates by raising indigo, and other schemes: but whether it has been owing to the climate, to their inexperience in these matters, or their want of perseverance, I am unable to determine, but their success has not answered their expectations.

The taxes of this colony are considerable, and the public debt amounts to at least 400,000 l. currency; this they have been driven into by the war, having seldom had less than a thousand or fifteen hundred provincial troops in pay, exclusive of the expences of some forts. The ways and means employed for raising the money, have been generally the same: they have first made an emission of so much paper currency as the exigency required, and then laid a tax for sinking it. This tax has been commonly upon lands and negroes, two shillings for every titheable; and a shilling or eighteen pence upon every hundred acres of land. This mode of taxation has occasioned some divisions in the house; for the owners of large tracts, being unable, perhaps, to cultivate a tenth part of their possessions, and every man's real income arising from the number of his negroes, have thought it very hard to pay a tax for what they pretend is of no value to them: but much better arguments may be urged in support of the tax than against it.

The taxes for the present debt are laid till the year sixty-nine, when the whole, if they add nothing more to it, will be discharged. The use of paper-currency in this colony has intirely banished from it gold and silver. Indeed the introduction of it was certain in time to produce this effect; but lest it should not, the Virginians fell into a measure, which completed it at once: for by an act of assembly they fixed the exchange between currency and sterling debts at five and twenty per cent.

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not considering that the real value of their currency could only be regulated by itself. The consequence was, that when from frequent emissions, the difference of exchange between bills upon merchants in London and currency, was at 40 per cent. the difference between currency and specie * was only five and twenty. So that the monied men collected all the specie they could, sent it away to Philadelphia, where it passed for its real value, purchased bills of exchange with it there, and sold them again in Virginia with fifteen per cent. profit. And this they continued to do till there was not a pistole or a dollar remaining.

During my stay in Virginia, I made several excursions into different parts of the country: one in particular to the great falls of Potowmac; of which, as I expected to be highly entertained, I kept a journal.

I departed from Williamsburg, Oct. 1, 1759, in company with another gentleman; and we travelled that day about forty miles, to a plantation in king William-County; beautifully situated upon a high hill, on the north side of Pamunky river. A little below this place stands the Pamunky Indian town; where at present are the few remains of that large tribe; the rest having dwindled away through intemperance and disease. They live in little wigwams or cabins upon the river; and have a very fine tract of land of about 2000 acres, which they are restrained from alienating by act of assembly. Their employment is chiefly hunting or fishing, for the neighbouring gentry. They commonly dress like the Virginians, and I have sometimes mistaken them for the lower sort of that people. The night I spent here, they went out into an adjoining marsh to catch sorufes; and one of them, as I was informed in the

* Fixing the difference between currency and sterling debts, was, in reality, fixing it between currency and specie.

morning, caught near a hundred dozen. The manner of taking these birds is remarkable. The season is not known to be in Virginia, except for about six weeks from the latter end of September: at that time they are found in the marshes in prodigious numbers, feeding upon the wild oats. At first they are exceedingly lean, but in a short time grow so fat, as to be unable to fly: in this state they lie upon the reeds, and the Indians go out in canoes and knock them on the head with their paddles. They are rather bigger than a lark, and are delicious eating. During the time of their continuing in season, you meet with them at the tables of most of the planters, breakfast, dinner, and supper*.

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Oct. 2. We went to another plantation about twenty-four miles distant, belonging to a private gentleman upon Mattaponi river. We staid there all that and the next day on account of rain.

Oct. 4. We travelled twenty-five miles to another gentleman's house; and from thence, the day following, about twenty-five miles farther, to a town called Fredericburg.

Fredericburg is situated about a mile below the Falls of Rappahannoc: it is regularly laid out, as most of the towns in Virginia are, in parallel streets. Part of it is built upon an eminence, and commands a delightful prospect; the rest upon the edge of the water for the convenience of warehouses. The town was begun about thirty-two years ago, for the sake of car-

* In several parts of Virginia the ancient custom of eating meat at breakfast still continues. At the top of the table, where the lady of the house presides, there is constantly tea and coffee; but the rest of the table is garnished out with roast fowls, ham, venison, game, and other dainties. Even at Williamsburg, it is the custom to have a plate of cold ham upon the table; and there is scarcely a Virginian lady who breakfasts without it.

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rying on a trade with the back-settlers; and is at present by far the most flourishing one in these parts.

We left Fredericburg the 6th instant, and went to see the Falls. At this place is a small mercantile town called Falmouth; whose inhabitants are endeavouring to rival the Fredericburghers in their trade. It is built upon the north-side of the river, and consists of eighteen or twenty houses.

The Falls of Rappahannoc are similar to those of James river, except that they are not upon so large a scale. The whole range scarcely exceeds half a mile, and the breadth not a hundred yards. At the time of our going to see them, there was a fresh in the river, which added very much to their beauty. The center of view was an island or about a hundred acres covered with trees: this divided the river into two branches, in each of which, at regular distances of fifteen or twenty yards, was a chain of six or seven falls, one above another, the least of them a foot perpendicular. The margin was beautifully variegated with rocks and trees, and the whole formed a pleasing romantic scene.

At this place we met with a person who informed us of his having been, a few days before, a spectator of that extraordinary phenomenon in nature, the fascinating power of the rattle-snake. He observed one lying coiled near a tree, looking directly at a bird which had settled there. The bird was under great agitation, uttered the most doleful cries, hopped from spray to spray, and at length flew directly down to the snake, which opened its mouth and swallowed it.

From hence we ascended up the river, about fifteen miles, to Spotswood's iron-mines; and in our way had a fine view of the Apalachian mountains, or Blue Ridge, at the distance of seventy miles. At this place I was much affected with the following incident. A gentleman in our company, which was

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now increased, had a small negro boy with him, about fourteen years of age, that had lived with him in a remote part of the country some time as a servant; an old woman who was working in the mines, and who proved to be the boy's grandmother, accidentally cast her eyes on him; she viewed him with great attention for some time; then screamed out, saying that it was her child, and flung herself down upon the ground. She lay there some seconds; rose up, looked on him again in an extasy of joy, and fell upon his neck and kissed him. After this, she retired a few paces, examined him afresh with fixed attention, and immediately seemed to lose herself in thoughtful and profound melancholy. The boy all this while stood silent and motionless; reclining his head on one side, pale and affected beyond description. Upon the whole, it would not have been in the power of Raphael, to have imagined a finer picture of distress.

We returned from this place the next day to Fredericksburg; and ferrying over the Rappahannoc into the Northern Neck, travelled about seventeen miles to a gentleman's house in Stafford County: in the morning we proceeded through Dumfries, and over Occoquan river to Colchester, about twenty-one miles.

These are two small towns lately built for the sake of the back trade; the former on Acquia creek, the other upon Occoquan river, both of which fall into the Potowmac. About two miles above Colchester there is an iron furnace, a forge, two saw-mills, and a bolting-mill: at our return we had an opportunity of visiting them: they have every convenience of wood and water, that can be wished for. The ore wrought here is brought from Maryland; not that there is any doubt of there being plenty enough in the adjacent hills; but the inhabitants are discouraged from trying for it by the proprietor's (viz. lord

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Fairfax) having reserved to himself a third of all ore that may be discovered in the Northern Neck. From Colchester we went about twelve miles farther to Mount Vernon. This place is the property of colonel Washington, and truly deserving of its owner *. The house is most beautifully situated upon a very high hill on the banks of the Potowmac; and commands a noble prospect of water, of cliffs, of woods and plantations. The river is near two miles broad, though two hundred from the mouth; and divides the dominion of Virginia from Maryland †. We rested here one day, and proceeded up the river

Oct. 10.

* I cannot omit this opportunity of bearing testimony to the gallant and public spirit of this gentleman. Nov. 1, 1753, Lieut. Gov. Dinwiddie having informed the assembly of Virginia, that the French had erected a fort upon the Ohio, it was resolved to send somebody to M. St. Pierre the commander, to claim that country as belonging to his Britannic majesty, and to order him to withdraw. Mr. Washington, a young gentleman of fortune just arrived at age, offered his service on this important occasion. The distance was more than 400 miles; 200 of which lay through a trackless desert, inhabited by cruel and merciless savages; and the season was uncommonly severe. Notwithstanding these discouraging circumstances, Mr. Washington, attended by one companion only, set out upon this dangerous enterprize: travelled from Winchester on foot, carrying his provisions on his back, executed his commission; and after incredible hardships, and many providential escapes, returned safe to Williamsburg, and gave an account of his negociation to the assembly, the 14th day of February following.

† A very curious sight is frequently exhibited upon this and the other great rivers in Virginia, which for its novelty is exceedingly diverting to strangers. During the spring and summer months the fishing-hawk is often seen hovering over the rivers, or resting on the wing without the least visible change of place for some minutes, then suddenly darting down and plunging into the water, from whence it seldom rises again without a rock fish, or some other considerable fish in its talons. It immediately shakes off the water like a mist, and makes the best of its way towards the woods. The bald-eagle, which is generally upon the watch, instantly pursues, and if it can overtake, endeavours to soar above it. The hawk grown sollicitous for its own safety drops the

about

F A L L S O F P O T O W M A C.

29

1759.

about twenty-six miles to take a view of the Great Falls. These are formed in some respect like those of the Rappahannoc; but are infinitely more noble. The channel of the river is contracted by hills, and is as narrow, I was told, as at Fort Cumberland, which is an hundred and fifty miles higher up. It is clogged moreover with innumerable rocks; so that the water for a mile or two flows with accelerated velocity. At length coming to a ledge of rocks, which runs diametrically cross the river, it divides into two spouts, each about eight yards wide, and rushes down a precipice with incredible rapidity. The spout on the Virginian side makes three falls, one above another; the first about ten feet, the next fifteen, and the last twenty-four or twenty-five feet perpendicular. The water is of a vast bulk, and almost intire; the spout on the Maryland side is nearly equal in height and quantity, but a great deal more broken. These two spouts, after running in separate channels for a short space, at length unite in one about thirty yards wide; and as we judged from the smoothness of the surface and our unsuccessful endeavours to fathom it, of prodigious depth. The rocks on each side are at least ninety or a hundred feet high; and yet in great freshes, the water overflows the tops of them, as appeared by several large and intire trees, which had lodged there.

In the evening we returned down the river about sixteen miles to Alexandria, or Bel-haven, a small trading place in one of the finest situations imaginable. The Potowmac above and below the town, is not more than a mile broad, but it here opens into a large circular bay, of at least twice that diameter.

The town is built upon an arc of this bay; at one extremity of which is a wharf; at the other a dock for building

fish, and the bald-eagle never fails to swoop and catch it in its pounces before it reaches the water, leaving the hawk to go and fish for another.

ships;

1759.

ships; with water sufficiently deep to launch a vessel of any rate or magnitude.

The next day we returned to colonel Washington's, and in a few days afterward to Williamsburg.

The time of my residence in this colony was ten months, and I received so many instances of friendship and good-nature, that not to acknowledge them would be an act of ingratitude. It would not be easy to mention particular instances, without being guilty of injustice by omitting others. But, in general, I can truly affirm, that I took leave of this hospitable people with regret, and shall ever remember them with gratitude and affection.

1760.
May 20.

Having procured three horses, for myself, servant, and baggage, I departed from Williamsburg, and travelled that night to Eltham; twenty-five miles.

May 27.

I ferried over Pamunky river at Dansies, and went to Todd's ordinary upon Mattopony, or the northern branch of York river; thirty-two miles.

May 28.

I went to a plantation in Caroline county; twenty-seven miles.

May 29.

To Fredericksburg; twenty-five miles.

As I was travelling this day, I observed a large black-snake, about six feet long, lying cross the stump of a tree by the road side. I touched it with my switch several times before it stirred; at last it darted with incredible swiftness into the woods. On my looking into the hole, where it had fixed its head, I observed a small bead-snake about two feet long; beautifully variegated with red, black, and orange colour, which the black-snake was watching to prey upon. I took and laid it, half stupified, in the sun to revive. After I had proceeded about a quarter of a mile, it occurred to me that it would be a great curiosity if I could carry it to England; I therefore sent my
ser-

PIGNUT-RIDGE. BLUE-RIDGE.

31

servant back with orders to fetch it: but, at his return, he acquainted me that it was not to be found, and that the black-snake was in the same position wherein I had first discovered it. I mention this as an instance of the intrepid nature of the black-snake, which, though not venomous, will attack and devour the rattle-snake, and, in some cases, it is asserted, even dare to assault a man.

1760.

I left Fredericburg, and having ferried over the Rappahannoc at the fall, travelled that night to Neville's ordinary, about thirty-four miles.

May 30.

I passed over the Pignut and Blue Ridges; and, crossing the Shenando, arrived, after a long day's journey of above fifty miles, at Winchester.

May 31.

The Pignut ridge is a continuation of the south west mountains. It is no where very high; and at the gap where I passed, the ascent is so extremely easy, owing to the winding of the road between the mountains, that I was scarcely sensible of it.

The tract of country lying between this ridge and the coast, is supposed, and with some appearance of probability, to have been gained from the ocean. The situation is extremely low; and the ground every where broken into small hills, nearly of the same elevation, with deep intermediate gullies, as if it were the effect of some sudden retiring of the waters. The soil is principally of sand; and there are few, if any pebbles, within a hundred miles of the shore; for which reason the Virginians in these parts never shoe their horses. Incredible quantities of what are commonly called scallop-shells, are found also near the surface of the ground; and many of the hills are entirely formed of them. These phænomena, with others less obvious to common observation, seem to indicate that the Atlantic, either gradually, or by some sudden revolution

1760. lution in nature, has retired, and lost a considerable part of that dominion which formerly belonged to it.

The Blue-ridge is much higher than the Pignut: though even these mountains are not to be compared with the Alleghenny. To the southward, indeed, I was told, they are more lofty; and but little, if at all, inferior to them. The pass at Ashby's Gap, from the foot of the mountain on the eastern side to the Shenando, which runs at the foot on the western, is about four miles. The ascent is no where very steep; though the mountains are, upon the whole, I think, higher than any I have ever seen in England. When I was got to the top, I was inexpressibly delighted with the scene which opened before me. Immediately under the mountain, which was covered with chamædaphnes in full bloom, was a most beautiful river: beyond this an extensive plain, diversified with every pleasing object that nature can exhibit; and, at the distance of fifty miles, another ridge of still more lofty mountains, called the Great, or North-ridge*, which inclosed and terminated the whole.

The river Shenando rises a great way to the southward from under this Great North-ridge. It runs through Augusta County, and falls into the Potowmac somewhere in Frederic. At the place where I ferried over, it is only about a hundred yards wide; and indeed it is no where, I believe, very broad. It is exceedingly romantic and beautiful, forming great variety of falls, and is so transparent, that you may see the smallest pebble at the depth of eight or ten feet. There is plenty of trout and other fish in it; but it is not navigable, except for rafts. In sudden freshes it rises above forty or fifty feet. The low grounds upon the banks of this river are very rich and fertile; they are chiefly settled by Germans, who gain a sufficient live-

* All these ridges consist of single mountains joined together, and run parallel to each other.

lihood by raising stock for the troops, and sending butter down into the lower parts of the country. I could not but reflect with pleasure on the situation of these people; and think if there is such a thing as happiness in this life, that they enjoy it. Far from the bustle of the world, they live in the most delightful climate, and richest soil imaginable; they are every where surrounded with beautiful prospects, and sylvan scenes; lofty mountains, transparent streams, falls of water, rich valleys, and majestic woods; the whole interspersed with an infinite variety of flowering shrubs, constitute the landscape surrounding them: they are subject to few diseases; are generally robust; and live in perfect liberty: they are ignorant of want, and acquainted with but few vices. Their inexperience of the elegancies of life, precludes any regret that they possess not the means of enjoying them: but they possess what many princes would give half their dominions for, health, content, and tranquillity of mind.

Winchester is a small town of about two hundred houses. It is the place of general rendezvous of the Virginian troops, which is the reason of its late rapid increase, and present flourishing condition. The country about it, before the reduction of Fort du Quesne, was greatly exposed to the ravages of the Indians, who daily committed most horrid cruelties: even the town would have been in danger, had not colonel Washington, in order to cover and protect it, erected a fort upon an eminence at one end of it, which proved of the utmost utility; for although the Indians were frequently in sight of the town, they never dared to approach within reach of the fort. It is a regular square fortification, with four bastions, mounting twenty-four cannon; the length of each curtain, if I am not mistaken, is about eighty yards. Within, there are barracks for 450 men. The materials of which it is built, are

F

loggs

1760.

loggs filled up with earth: the soldiers attempted to furround it with a dry ditch; but the rock was so extremely hard and impenetrable, that they were obliged to desist. It is still unfinished; and, I fear, going to ruin; for the assembly, who seldom look a great way before them, after having expended about 9000 l. currency upon it, cannot be prevailed upon to give another thousand towards finishing it, because we are in possession of Pittsburg; and, as they suppose, quite secure on that account: yet it is certain, that, in case of another Indian war on this side, which is by no means improbable, considering our general treatment of that people, it would be of the utmost advantage and security.

There is a peculiarity in the water at Winchester, owing, I was told, to the soil's being of a limy quality, which is frequently productive of severe gripings, especially in strangers; but it is generally supposed, on the other hand, to be a specific against some other diseases.

During my stay at this place, I was almost induced to make a tour for a fortnight to the southward, in Augusta county, for the sake of seeing some natural curiosities; which, the officers assured me, were extremely well worth visiting: but as the Cherokees had been scalping in those parts only a few days before; and as I feared, at the same time, that it would detain me too long, and that I should lose my passage to England, I judged it prudent to decline it.

The curiosities they mentioned to me, were chiefly these:

1. About forty miles westward of Augusta court-house, a beautiful cascade, bursting out of the side of a rock; and, after running some distance through a meadow, rushing down a precipice 150 feet perpendicular.

2. To the southward of this about twenty miles, two curious hot springs, one tasting like alum, the other like the washings of a gun.

3. A most

3. A most extraordinary cave.
4. A medicinal spring, specific in venereal cases. A soldier in the Virginian regiment, whose case was almost desperate, by drinking and bathing in these waters, was, after a few days, intirely cured. This fact was asserted very strongly by some officers, who had been posted there: but colonel Washington, of whom I enquired more particularly concerning it, informed me that he had never heard of it; that he was not indeed at the place where it is said to have happened, but that having the command of the regiment at that time, he should probably have been informed of it. What credit therefore is to be given to it, the reader must judge for himself.
5. Sixty miles southward of Augusta court-house, a natural arch, or bridge, joining two high mountains, with a considerable river running underneath.
6. A river called Lost river, from its sinking under a mountain, and never appearing again.
7. A spring of a sulphureous nature, an infallible cure for particular cutaneous disorders.
8. Sixteen miles north-east of Winchester, a natural cave or well, into which, at times, a person may go down to the depth of 100 or 150 yards; and at other times, the water rises up to the top, and overflows plentifully. This is called the ebbing and flowing well, and is situated in a plain, flat country, not contiguous to any mountain or running water.
9. A few miles from hence, six or seven curious caves communicating with each other.

A day or two before I left Winchester, I discovered that I had been robbed by my servant: he confessed the fact, and pleaded so little in justification of himself, that I was obliged to dismiss him. This distressed me very much, for it was impossible to hire a servant in these parts, or even any one to

1765. go over the mountains with me into the lower settlements. However, by the politeness of the commander of the place, the honourable colonel Byrd, and of another gentleman of my acquaintance, I got over these difficulties; for the former, while I continued at Winchester, accommodated me with his own apartments in the fort, ordering his servants to attend and wait upon me: and the latter sent a Negroe boy with me, as far as colonel Washington's, eighty miles distant from this place. On the 4th of June, therefore, I was enabled to leave Winchester, and I travelled that night about eighteen miles, to Sniker's ferry upon the Shenando.

The next morning I repassed the Blue-ridge at Williams's Gap, and proceeded on my journey about forty miles. I this day fell into conversation with a planter, who overtook me on the road, concerning the rattle-snake, of which there are infinite numbers in these parts; and he told me, that one day going to a mill at some distance, he provoked one to such a degree, as to make it strike a small vine which grew close by, and that the vine presently drooped, and died*.

My accommodations this evening were extremely bad; I had been wet to the skin in the afternoon; and at the miserable plantation in which I had taken shelter, I could get no fire; nothing to eat or drink but pure water; and not even a blanket to cover me. I threw myself down upon my mattrass, but suffered so much from cold, and was so infested with insects, and vermin, that I could not close my eyes. I rose early in the

* Several persons to whom I have mentioned this fact, have seemed to doubt of the probability of it. But were it not true, a question will naturally arise, how an idea of that nature should occur to an ignorant planter, living remote from all cultivated society; and, more particularly, how he should happen to fix upon that tree; which, supposing the thing possible, is the most likely to have been affected in the manner described.

1766.

morning, therefore, and proceeded upon my journey, being distant from colonel Washington's not more than thirty miles. It was late, however, before I arrived there, for it rained extremely hard, and a man who undertook to show me the nearest way, led me among precipices and rocks, and we were lost for above two hours. It was not indeed, without some compensation; for he brought me through as beautiful and picturesque a scene, as eye ever beheld. It was a delightful valley, about two miles in length, and a quarter of one in breadth, between high and craggy mountains, covered with chamædaphnes or wild ivy, in full flower. Through the middle of the valley glided a rivulet about eight yards wide, extremely lucid, and breaking into innumerable cascades; and in different parts of it stood small clumps of evergreens; such as myrtles, cedars, pines, and various other sorts. Upon the whole, not Tempe itself could have displayed greater beauty a more delightful scene.

At colonel Washington's I disposed of my horses, and, having borrowed his curricule and servant, I took leave of Mount-Vernon the 11th of June.

I crossed over the Potowmac into Maryland at Clifton's ferry, where the river is something more than a mile broad; and proceeded on my journey to Marlborough, eighteen miles. I here met with a strolling company of players, under the direction of one Douglas. I went to see their theatre, which was a neat, convenient tobacco-house, well fitted up for the purpose. From hence in the afternoon I proceeded to Queen Ann, nine miles; and in the evening nine miles farther, over the Patuxen to London-town ferry; I staid here all night, and early in the morning ferrying over South-river, three quarters of a mile in breadth, I arrived at Annapolis, four miles distant, about nine in the morning.

Anna-

Annapolis is the capital of Maryland; it is a small neat town, consisting of about a hundred and fifty houses, situated on a peninsula upon Severn river. The peninsula is formed by the river, and two small creeks; and although the river is not above a mile broad; yet as it falls into Chesapeake bay a little below, there is from this town the finest water-prospect imaginable. The bay is twelve miles over, and beyond it you may discern the eastern shore; so that the scene is diversified with fields, wood, and water. The tide rises here about two feet, and the water is salt, though the distance of the Capes is more than 200 miles. The town is not laid out regularly, but is tolerably well built, and has several good brick houses in it. None of the streets are paved, and the few public buildings here are not worth mentioning. The church is a very poor one, the stadthouse but indifferent, and the governor's palace is not finished. This last mentioned building was begun a few years ago; it is situated very finely upon an eminence, and commands a beautiful view of the town and environs. It has four large rooms on the lower floor, besides a magnificent hall, a staircase, and a vestibule. On each side of the entrance are four windows, and nine upon the first story; the offices are under ground. It was to have had a fine portico the whole range of the building; but unluckily the governor and assembly disagreeing about ways and means, the execution of the design was suspended; and only the shell of the house has been finished, which is now going to ruin. The house, which the present governor inhabits, is hired by the province at 80 l. currency per annum.

There is very little trade carried on from this place, and the chief of the inhabitants are storekeepers or public officers. They build two or three ships annually, but seldom more.

There

M A R Y L A N D.

39

There are no fortifications, except a miserable battery of fifteen six-pounders.

1760.

Maryland is situated between the 38th and 40th degrees of north latitude, and 75th and 80th of west longitude from London. It is bounded on the east by the Atlantic ocean, and the three lower counties of Delaware; on the south and west by Virginia; and by Pennsylvania on the north. The climate, soil, and natural productions of it are nearly the same as those of Virginia. It is watered by many fine rivers, and almost innumerable creeks; but is far from being well cultivated, and is capable of much improvement. It is divided into fourteen counties, and between forty and fifty parishes; and there are several little towns in it which are neatly built. The inhabitants, exclusive of slaves, are supposed to be about ninety thousand: of which the militia, including all white males between sixteen and sixty, amounts to eighteen. The slaves are about thirty-two thousand. The staple of the country is tobacco; and, communibus annis, they export near 30,000 hogheads: last year their exports amounted to 50,000. Their manufactures are very trifling. The government is a proprietary one; and consists of the proprietor (viz. lord Baltimore); his governor; the council, composed of twelve persons nominated by himself; and a house of representatives, elected by the people; four for each county, and two for Annapolis. The power of the proprietor is next to regal; of the other parts of the legislature, much the same as in Virginia. The lower house has been at variance some years with the council and governor, concerning ways and means; chiefly in regard to taxing the merchants book-debts: which has been the reason of its having done nothing for the defence of the colonies during the war. The house has constantly voted troops, but as constantly laid the same tax for the maintenance of them: so the coun-

council has always rejected it ; alledging the inconvenience of such a tax, as it would necessarily be a restraint upon trade ; and ruin many of the merchants credit. The proprietor has a negative * upon every bill, exclusive of his governor.

There are several courts of judicature in this province ; but the principal are either those which are held quarterly in each county by the justices thereof, like those in Virginia ; or the provincial ones, which are held twice annually at Annapolis by judges appointed for that purpose †. The court of chancery consists of the governor and council : and the dernier resort is to his majesty in council at home.

The established religion is that of the church of England : but there are as many Roman Catholics as Protestants. The clergy are liberally provided for ; they have not, as in Virginia, a fixed quantity of tobacco ; but so much per head, viz. 30 weight for every tythable in their respective parishes : and some of them make more than 300 l. sterling per annum. They are presented to their livings by the governor ; and are under the jurisdiction of the bishop of London ; but being at a great distance from England, and having no commissary to superintend their affairs, they labour under many inconveniences. Assessments are made, I was told, by the county-courts ; the vestry, which consists of twelve members distinct from the church-wardens, having little or no authority ‡.

* This power is doubted, though it has never yet been contested.

† Besides these courts, there was formerly a general court of assize held throughout the province, either once or twice a year, but this has been laid aside.

‡ The whole vestry, as in Virginia, consists of twelve members ; but they go off by rotation two every year ; so there is annually a fresh election. They have the power of appointing inspectors, &c.

In each county throughout this province, there is a public free-school, for reading, writing, and accounts ; but no college or academy ; and the education of youth is but little attended to.

1760.

The character of the inhabitants is much the same as that of the Virginians ; and the state of the two colonies nearly alike. Tobacco, to speak in general, is the chief thing attended to in both. There have been some attempts indeed to make wine ; and it is certain, that the country is capable of producing almost any sort of grapes. Col. Tasco, a gentleman of distinction in these parts, attempted to make Burgundy, and succeeded tolerably well, for the first trial. I drank some of the wine at the table of Mr. Hamilton, the governor of Pennsylvania, and thought it not bad. But whether, as this gentleman is now dead, any other person will have spirit to prosecute his plan, I much doubt. The currency here is paper-money, and the difference of exchange about fifty per cent. The duty upon negroes, is only forty shillings currency per head at their importation ; whereas in Virginia it is ten pounds.

I hired a schooner of about ten ton, and embarked for the head of the bay, distant twenty-three leagues ; we made sail with a fresh breeze, and after a pleasant passage of sixteen hours, in one of the most delightful days imaginable, arrived at Frederick-Town upon Sassafras river, about twelve in the evening. I never in my life spent a day more agreeable, or with higher entertainment. The shores on each side the bay, and the many little islands interspersed in it, afford very beautiful prospects ; we were entertained at the same time with innumerable porpoises playing about the bow of the ship ; and naturally fell into a train of the most pleasing reflections, on observing the mouths of the many noble rivers as we passed along. On the western shore, besides those great rivers of Virginia, which I have already described, there are ten or eleven others large and capacious, some of them navigable a considerable

June 13.

1769.

way up into the country. "The Patuxen, which we have left behind us, said the master of the schooner as we were sailing over this beautiful bay, is navigable near fifty miles for vessels of three hundred ton burthen. Yonder, he added, are South and Severn rivers, navigable above ten miles. A little farther is the Patapisco, a large and noble river; where I have gone up fifteen miles. Gunpowder and Bush rivers admit only sloops and schooners. The Susquehannah, though so majestic, and superior in appearance, has only a short, and that a bad navigation; but it rises an immense way off in unknown and inhospitable regions, is exceedingly large and beautiful, and affords great variety of fish. On the eastern shore, he concluded, are Bahama, Sassafras, Chester, Wye, Miles, Great Choptank, Little Choptank, Nanticote, Manokin, and Pocomoke rivers; all of them navigable, more or less, for several miles."—Such was our conversation and entertainment during this delightful voyage.

Frederic-town is a small village on the western side of Sassafras river, built for the accommodation of strangers and travellers; on the eastern side, exactly opposite to it, is another small village (George-town), erected for the same purpose. Having hired an Italian chaise, with a servant and horse to attend me as far as Philadelphia. I left Frederic-town the next day, and went to Newcastle, thirty-two miles.

Newcastle is situated upon Delaware river, about forty miles above the Bay, and a hundred from the Capes. It is the capital of the three lower counties, but a place of very little consideration; there are scarcely more than an hundred houses in it, and no public buildings that deserve to be taken notice of. The church, presbyterian and quakers meeting-houses, court-house, and market-house, are almost equally bad, and undeserving of attention.

The province, of which this is the capital, and which is distinguished by the name of the Three Lower Counties of Newcastle,

castle, Suffex, and Kent, belonged formerly to the Dutch; but was ratified to the crown of England, by the treaty of Breda; it was afterward sold by the duke of York to the proprietor of Pennsylvania, and has continued a separate government, though nearly under the same regulations with that province, ever since. The same governor presides over both; but the assembly, and courts of judicature are different: different as to their constituent members, for in form they are nearly alike. The assembly consists of eighteen persons, elected annually by the people; six for each county: this with the governor, forms the legislature of the province. There is a militia, in which all persons, from eighteen to fifty, are obliged to be inrolled; and the county of Newcastle alone furnishes more than seven hundred.

The next day I set out for Philadelphia, distant about thirty-six miles, and arrived there in the evening. The country all the way bore a different aspect from any thing I had hitherto seen in America. It was much better cultivated, and beautifully laid out into fields of clover, grain, and flax. I passed by a very pretty village called Wilmington; and rode through two others, viz. Chester and Derby. The Delaware river is in sight great part of the way, and is three miles broad. Upon the whole nothing could be more pleasing than the ride which I had this day. I ferried over the Schuilkill, about three miles below Philadelphia; from whence to the city the whole country is covered with villas, gardens, and luxuriant orchards.

Philadelphia, if we consider that not eighty years ago the place where it now stands was a wild and uncultivated desert, inhabited by nothing but ravenous beasts, and a savage people, must certainly be the object of every one's wonder and admiration. It is situated upon a tongue of land, a few miles above the confluence of the Delaware and Schuilkill; and contains about 3000 houses, and 18 or 20,000 inhabitants. It is built

north and south upon the banks of the Delaware; and is nearly two miles in length, and three quarters of one in breadth. The streets are laid out with great regularity in parallel lines, intersected by others at right angles, and are handsomely built: on each side there is a pavement of broad stones for foot passengers; and in most of them a causeway in the middle for carriages. Upon dark nights it is well lighted, and watched by a patrol: there are many fair houses, and public edifices in it. The stadthouse is a large, handsome, though heavy building; in this are held the councils, the assemblies, and supreme courts; there are apartments in it also for the accommodation of Indian chiefs or sachems; likewise two libraries; one belonging to the province, the other to a society, which was incorporated about ten years ago, and consists of sixty members. Each member upon admission, subscribed forty shillings; and afterward annually ten. They can alienate their shares, by will or deed, to any person approved of by the society. They have a small collection of medals and medallions, and a few other curiosities, such as the skin of a rattle-snake killed at Surinam twelve feet long; and several Northern Indian habits made of furs and skins. At a small distance from the stadthouse, there is another fine library, consisting of a very valuable and chosen collection of books, left by a Mr. Logan; they are chiefly in the learned languages. Near this there is also a noble hospital for lunatics, and other sick persons. Besides these buildings, there are spacious barracks for 17 or 1800 men; a good assembly-room belonging to the society of free-masons; and eight or ten places of religious worship; viz. two churches, three quakers meeting-houses, two presbyterian ditto, one Lutheran church, one Dutch Calvinist ditto, one Swedish ditto, one Romish chapel, one anabaptist meeting-house, one Moravian ditto: there is also an academy or college, originally built for a tabernacle for Mr. Whitefield.

At

At the south-end of the town, upon the river, there is a battery mounting thirty guns, but it is in a state of decay. It was designed as a check upon privateers. These, with a few almshouses, and a school-house belonging to the quakers, are the chief public buildings in Philadelphia. The city is in a very flourishing state, and inhabited by merchants, artists, tradesmen, and persons of all occupations. There is a public market held twice a week, upon Wednesday and Saturday, almost equal to that of Leadenhall, and a tolerable one every day besides. The streets are crowded with people, and the river with vessels. Houses are so dear, that they will let for 100 l. currency per annum; and lots, not above thirty feet in breadth, and a hundred in length, in advantageous situations, will sell for 1000 l. sterling. There are several docks upon the river, and about twenty-five vessels are built there annually. I counted upon the stocks at one time no less than seventeen, most of them three-masted vessels.

Can the mind have a greater pleasure than in contemplating the rise and progress of cities and empires? Than in perceiving a rich and opulent state arising out of a small settlement or colony? This pleasure every one must feel who considers Pennsylvania.—This wonderful province is situated between the 40th and 43d degrees of north latitude, and about 76 degrees west longitude from London, in a healthy and delightful climate, amidst all the advantages that nature can bestow. The soil is extremely strong and fertile, and produces spontaneously an infinite variety of trees, flowers, fruits, and plants of different sorts. The mountains are enriched with ore, and the rivers with fish: some of these are so stately as not to be beheld without admiration: the Delaware is navigable for large vessels as far as the falls, 180 miles distant from the sea, and 120 from the bay. At the mouth it is more than three miles broad, and above one at Philadelphia. The navigation is ob-

structed

P E N S Y L V A N I A.

fructed in the winter, for about six weeks, by the severity of the frost; but, at other times, it is bold and open. The Schuilkill, though not navigable for any great space, is exceedingly romantic, and affords the most delightful retirements.

Cultivation is carried to a high degree of perfection; and Pennsylvania produces not only great plenty, but also great variety of grain; it yields likewise flax-seed, hemp, cattle of different kinds, and various other articles*.

It is divided into eight counties, and contains many large and populous towns: Carlisle, Lancaster, and German-town, consist each of near five hundred houses; there are several others which have from one to two hundred.

The number of inhabitants is supposed to be between four and five hundred thousand, a fifth of which are quakers; there are very few Negroes or slaves.

The trade of Pennsylvania is surprisngly extensive, carried on to Great Britain, the West Indies, every part of North America, the Madeiras, Lisbon, Cadiz, Holland, Africa, the Spanish main, and several other places; exclusive of what is illicitly carried on to Cape François, and Monte-Christo. Their exports are provisions of all kinds, lumber, hemp, flax, flax-seed, iron, furs, and deer-skins. Their imports, English ma-

* In the southern colonies cultivation is in a very low state. The common process of it is, first to cut off the trees two or three feet above ground, in order to let in the sun and air, leaving the stumps to decay and rot, which they do in a few years. After this they dig and plant, and continue to work the same fields, year after year, without ever manuring it, till it is quite spent. They then enter upon a fresh piece of ground, allowing this a respite of about twenty years to recover itself; during which time it becomes beautifully covered with Virginian pines: the seeds of that tree, which are exceedingly small, and, when the cones open, are wafted through the air in great abundance, sowing themselves in every vacant spot of neglected ground.

nufactures,

nufactures, with the superfluities and luxuries of life. By their flag of truce-trade, they also get sugar, which they refine and send to Europe. 1760.

Their manufactures are very considerable. The German-town thread-stockings are in high estimation; and the year before last, I have been credibly informed, there were manufactured in that town alone, above 60,000 dozen pair. Their common retail price is a dollar per pair.

The Irish settlers make very good linens: some woollens have also been fabricated, but not I believe to any amount. There are several other manufactures, viz. of beaver hats, which are superior in goodness to any in Europe, of cordage, linseed oil, starch, myrtle-wax and spermaceti candles, soap, earthen ware, and other commodities.

The government of this province is a proprietary one. The legislature is lodged in the hands of a governor, appointed (with the king's approbation) by the proprietor; and a house of representatives, elected by the people, consisting of thirty-seven members. These are of various religious persuasions; for by the charter of privileges, which Mr. Penn granted to the settlers in Pennsylvania, no person who believed in God could be molested in his calling or profession; and any one who believed in Jesus Christ might enjoy the first post under the government. The crown has reserved to itself a power of repealing any law, which may interfere with the prerogative, or be contrary to the laws of Great Britain.

The judicature consists of different courts. The justices of the peace, who, together with the other judges, are of the governor's appointment, hold quarterly sessions conformable to the laws of England; and, when these are finished, continue to sit in quality of judges of common pleas, by a special commission. The supreme court consists of a chief justice, and

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two assistant judges; they have the united authority of the King's Bench, Common Pleas, and Court of Exchequer. They not only receive appeals, but all causes once commenced in the inferior courts, after the first writ, may be moved thither by a habeas corpus, certiorari, writ of error, &c. The judges of the supreme court have also a standing and distinct commission, to hold, as shall seem needful, courts of oyer and terminer, and general goal-deliveries throughout the province; but this power they seldom, I believe, exercise. The supreme courts are held twice a year at Philadelphia. There is no Court of Chancery; but the want of it is supplied, in some measure, by the other courts. There is a particular officer called the register-general, appointed by the governor, whose authority extends over the whole province, where he has several deputies. He grants letters of administration, and probates of wills. In cases of dispute, or caveat entered, he may call in, as assistants, two justices of the peace. The governor can pardon in all cases, except of treason or murder, and then can reprieve till he knows the king's pleasure.

There is here, as in most of the other colonies, a Court of Vice-admiralty, held by commission from the Admiralty in England, for the trial of captures and of piracies, and other misdemeanors committed upon the high seas; but there lies an appeal from it, I believe, to the Court of Delegates in England.

As to religion, there is none properly established; but Protestants of all denominations, Papists, Jews, and all other sects whatsoever, are universally tolerated. There are twelve clergymen of the church of England, who are sent by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and are allowed annually 50*l.* each, besides what they get from subscriptions and surplice fees. Some few of these are itinerant missionaries, and have no fixed residence, but travel from place to place, as occasion

caſion requires, upon the frontiers. They are under the jurif-
diction of the biſhop of London.

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Arts and ſciences are yet in their infancy. There are ſome few perſons who have diſcovered a taſte for muſic and painting; and philoſophy ſeems not only to have made a conſiderable progreſs already, but to be daily gaining ground. The library ſociety is an excellent inſtitution for propagating a taſte for literature; and the college well calculated to form and cultivate it. This laſt inſtitution is erected upon an admirable plan, and is by far the beſt ſchool for learning throughout America. It has been chiefly raiſed by contributions; and its preſent fund is about 10,000 l. Penſylvania money. An account of it may be ſeen in Dr. Smith's (the preſident's) Diſcourſes. The quakers alſo have an academy for inſtructing their youth in claſſical learning, and practical mathematics: there are three teachers, and about ſeventy boys in it. Beſides theſe, there are ſeveral ſchools in the province for the Dutch and other foreign children; and a conſiderable one is going to be erected at German-town.

The Penſylvanians, as to character, are a frugal and induſtrious people: not remarkably courteous and hofpitable to ſtrangers, unleſs particularly recommended to them; but rather, like the denizens of moſt commercial cities, the reverſe. They are great republicans, and have fallen into the ſame errors in their ideas of independency, as moſt of the other colonies have. They are by far the moſt enterprizing people upon the continent. As they conſiſt of ſeveral nations, and talk ſeveral languages, they are aliens in ſome reſpect to Great Britain: nor can it be expected that they ſhould have the ſame filial attachment to her which her own immediate off-ſpring have. However, they are quiet, and concern themſelves but little, except about getting money. The women

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are exceedingly handsome and polite; they are naturally sprightly and fond of pleasure; and, upon the whole, are much more agreeable and accomplished than the men. Since their intercourse with the English officers, they are greatly improved; and, without flattery, many of them would not make bad figures even in the first assemblies in Europe. Their amusements are chiefly dancing, in the winter; and, in the summer, forming parties of pleasure upon the Schuilkill, and in the country. There is a society of sixteen ladies, and as many gentlemen, called the fishing company, which meet once a fortnight upon the Schuilkill. They have a very pleasant room erected in a romantic situation upon the banks of that river, where they generally dine and drink tea. There are several pretty walks about it, and some wild and rugged rocks, which, together with the water and fine groves that adorn the banks, form a most beautiful and picturesque scene. There are boats and fishing tackle of all sorts, and the company divert themselves with walking, fishing, going upon the water, dancing, singing, conversing, or just as they please. The ladies wear an uniform, and appear with great ease and advantage from the neatness and simplicity of it. The first and most distinguished people of the colony are of this society; and it is very advantageous to a stranger to be introduced to it, as he hereby gets acquainted with the best and most respectable company in Philadelphia. In the winter, when there is snow upon the ground, it is usual to make what they call sleighing parties, or to go upon it in sledges; but as this is a practice well known in Europe, it is needless to describe it.

The present state of Pennsylvania is undoubtedly very flourishing. The country is well cultivated, and there are not less than 9000 waggons employed in it, in different services. Till this war they were exempt from taxes; and it was not without

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out difficulty that the quakers were prevailed upon to grant any supplies for the defence of the frontiers, though exposed to the most horrid cruelties: it was not from principle, say their enemies, that they refused it, but from interest; for as they were the first settlers, they chiefly occupy the interior and lower parts of the province, and are not exposed to incursions. At length, however, compelled by clamour and public discontent, they were obliged to pass a supply bill for 100,000 l. to raise five and twenty hundred men, and these they have kept up ever since; they afterwards passed a militia bill, but it was such an one as answered no good purpose. The quakers have much the greatest influence in the assembly, and are supported there by the Dutch and Germans, who are as averse to taxes as themselves. Their power, however, at present seems rather on the decline, which is the reason, as the opposite party pretend, that they stir up on all occasions as much confusion as possible, from that trite maxim in politics, divide et impera. They have quarrelled with the proprietors upon several occasions, whether altogether justly or not, I will not pretend to say; it is certain, however, that the determinations at home have been sometimes in their favour. The late subjects of their disputes have been chiefly these:

First, Whether the proprietary lands ought to be taxed? This has been determined at home in the affirmative.

Secondly, Whether the proprietor ought to have any choice or approbation of the assessors?

Thirdly, Whether he ought to give his governor instructions? And,

Lastly, Whether the judges of his appointment ought to be during pleasure, or *quamdiu se bene gesserint*? These three last are still undecided.

Upon the whole, though this province is exceedingly flourishing, yet there are certainly great abuses in it; and such as, if not speedily rectified, will be productive of bad consequences.

The difference of exchange between bills and the currency of Pennsylvania, is about 75 per cent.

An occurrence happened to me at Philadelphia, which though in itself of a trifling nature, I cannot but take notice of, as a singular instance of the strong possession which an idea will sometimes take of the mind; so as totally to derange it. A lady from Rhode-Island, who lodged in the same house with myself, had an unfortunate brother in the infirmary, a lunatic. He was supposed to be nearly well, and was permitted occasionally to see company. A few days before I was to leave Philadelphia, this lady invited me to accompany her in one of her visits to him, adding, that on her inadvertently mentioning to him some circumstances relating to me, he had expressed a most earnest desire to see me. I strongly objected to the proposal, urging the impropriety of introducing a stranger, or, indeed, company of any sort, to a person in that unhappy situation; as it might possibly agitate his mind, and retard his recovery. I advised her therefore not to take any further notice of it; hoping he might forget, or not mention it any more. The next day she renewed her application, adding, that her brother was exceedingly disappointed; and intreated me to attend her in so pressing a manner, that I could not with civility refuse it. On entering the cell, a beam of satisfaction seemed to dart from his eye, not easy to be expressed or conceived. I took him by the hand; and, seating myself opposite the bed to which he was chained, immediately took the lead in conversation, talking of indifferent matters, such as I thought, could not possibly

bly tend to interest or disturb his mind. I had not proceeded far when he suddenly interrupted me ; and proposed a question, which at once convinced me that he was in a very unfit state to see company. I immediately therefore rose up ; and making an excuse that my engagements that day would not admit of my entering into so curious a subject, desired him to reserve it for some future conversation. He seemed greatly disconcerted ; but being near the door which stood open, I took my leave and retired. The next morning I left Philadelphia ; nor did I think any more of this occurrence till I arrived at Rhode-Island ; where I was informed, that the chief, if not sole, instances of insanity shewn by this unhappy young man, were some attempts which he had made to kill a clergyman of the church of England. That he had been educated to be a teacher amongst the congregationalists, but had taken it into his head, that he could never gain heaven, or be happy, but by committing so heroic and meritorious an action. The very evening of his confinement he was prevented from fulfilling his purpose, in the instant that he was raising up his hand to plunge a knife into the back of a clergyman, who was reading the funeral service, in the presence of a large congregation. What his intentions were in regard to myself, I cannot pretend to say ; he offered me no violence : but those at Rhode-Island of his acquaintance, to whom I related this transaction, were fully persuaded that he was far from being cured of his distemper*.

* Since my return to Europe, I have been informed of an instance similar to this, which happened at Florence. A gentleman had taken it into his head that a very large diamond lay buried under a mountain which stood upon his estate, and was near ruining himself and his family by digging for it. His friends, by some contrivance or other, got him away to Florence, and placed him under the care of the late celebrated Dr. Cocchi. He there appeared per-

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I left Philadelphia the 6th of July, and travelled in the stage as far as Sheminey-ferry, about seventeen miles; where I was overtaken by a gentleman and some ladies of my acquaintance, who were going a few miles farther upon a party of pleasure. They were so obliging as to make room for me in one of their chaises, and we proceeded and dined together at Bristol, a small town upon the Delaware, opposite Burlington: in the afternoon we went ten miles higher up the river, and ferried over to Trenton, situated in the Jerseys. This is built on the east side of the Delaware, and contains about a hundred houses. It has nothing remarkable; there is a church, a quakers and presbyterian meeting-house, and barracks for three hundred men. From hence we went to Sir John Sinclair's, at the Falls of Delaware, about a mile above Trenton, a pleasant rural retirement; where we spent a most agreeable evening. In the morn-

fully composed, talked very rationally, and, having been well educated, afforded great entertainment to the doctor and his friends, who conversed with him. One day as they were sitting together, he mentioned to the doctor, that it was very hard he should be deprived of his liberty, when he was perfectly well; and that it was only a scheme of his relations to keep him in confinement, in order that they might enjoy his estate. The doctor, who had perceived no marks of insanity, began to be staggered; and promised, in case he should see no reason to alter his sentiments, to sign a certificate of his being well on such a day, in order to its being sent to England, that he might have his release. The day arrived, and the doctor was preparing to perform his promise; but, whether by design on perceiving something particular in the looks of his patient, or by accident, I could not learn, he said to the gentleman; "Now, Sir, I beg from this time that you will think no more of this foolish affair of the mountain and diamond." "Not think of the diamond, said the madman; "it is for this reason that I want my liberty; I know exactly the spot where it lies; and I will have it in my possession, before I am a year older."

This story was related to me in Tuscany, and I had no reason to question the truth of it.

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ing, the company returned to Philadelphia; and, having hired a chaise, I proceeded to Prince-town, twelve miles distant.

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At this place, there is a handsome school and college for the education of Dissenters; erected upon the plan of those in Scotland. There are about twenty boys in the grammar-school, and sixty in the college: at present there are only two professors, besides the provost; but they intend, as their fund increases, which is yet very small, and does not exceed 2000 l. currency, to add to this number. The building is extremely convenient, airy, and spacious; and has a chapel and other proper offices. Two students are in each set of apartments, which consists of a large bed-room, with a fire-place, and two studies. There is a small collection of books, a few instruments, and some natural curiosities. The expence to a student for room-rent, commons, and tutorage, amounts to about 25 l. currency per year. The provost has a salary of 200 l. currency, and the professors 50 l. each. The name of the college is Nassau-Hall.—From hence, in the afternoon, I proceeded to Brunswick, eighteen miles farther, a small city of about a hundred houses, situated upon Raritan river; where there are also very neat barracks for 300 men, a church, and a presbyterian meeting-house. It is celebrated for the number of its beauties; and, indeed, at this place and Philadelphia, were the handsomest women that I saw in America. At a small distance from the town is a copper-mine belonging to a Mr. French, (I was told) a pretty good one. The next day I rode up the river, about nine miles to the Raritan hills, to see a small cascade, which falls about fifteen or twenty feet, very romantically, from between two rocks. The country I passed through is exceedingly rich and beautiful; and the banks of the river are covered with gentlemen's houses. At one of these I had an opportunity.

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nity of seeing some good portraits of Vandyke, and several other small Dutch paintings.

On Monday the 7th, I proceeded to Perth-Amboy, twelve miles, the capital of the East-Jerseys, which is pleasantly situated upon a neck of land, included between the Raritan and Amboy rivers and a large open bay. This is generally the place of the governor's residence; and alternately, here and at Burlington, the capital of the West Jerseys, are held the assemblies, and other public meetings; it contains about a hundred houses, and has very fine barracks for 300 men. In the afternoon I travelled sixteen miles farther to Elizabeth-town, leaving Woodbridge, a small village where there is a printing-office, a little on my right hand. Elizabeth-town, is built upon a small creek or river that falls into Newark-bay, and contains between two and three hundred houses. It has a court-house, a church, and a meeting-house; and barracks also like those abovementioned.

The next morning I rode out, in order to visit Pasaic Falls, distant about twenty-three miles, and had a very agreeable tour. After riding about six miles, I came to a town called Newark, built in an irregular scattered manner, after the fashion of some of our villages in England, near two miles in length. It has a church erected in the Gothic taste with a spire, the first I had seen in America; and some other inconsiderable public buildings. Immediately on my leaving this place, I came upon the banks of Second, or Pasaic river, along which I travelled about eighteen miles to the Falls, through a rich country, covered with fine fields and gentlemen's seats.

The Falls are very extraordinary, different from any thing I had hitherto met with in America. The river is about forty yards broad, and runs with a very swift current, till coming to a deep chasm or cleft which crosses the channel, it falls above
seventy

seventy feet perpendicular in one intire sheet. One end of the cleft is closed up, and the water rushes out at the other with incredible rapidity, in an acute angle to its former direction; and is received into a large bason. From hence it takes a winding course through the rocks, and spreads again into a very considerable channel. The cleft is from four to twelve feet broad. The spray formed two beautiful (viz. the primary and secondary) rainbows, and helped to make as fine a scene as imagination could conceive. This extraordinary phenomenon is supposed to have been produced by an earthquake. The fate of two Indians is delivered down by tradition, who, venturing too near the Falls in a canoe, were carried down the precipice, and dashed to pieces. About thirty yards above the great Fall, is another, a most beautiful one, gliding over some ledges of rocks each two or three feet perpendicular, which heightens the scene very much.

From hence I returned, and in my way crossed over the river to colonel John Schuyler's copper mines, where there is a very rich vein of ore, and a fire-engine erected upon common principles.

After this I went down two miles farther to the park and gardens of this gentleman's brother, colonel Peter Schuyler. In the gardens is a very large collection of citrons, oranges, limes, lemons, balsams of Peru, aloes, pomegranates, and other tropical plants; and in the park I saw several American and English deer, and three or four elks or moose-deer. I arrived at Elizabeth town in the evening, not a little entertained with my expedition, but exceedingly fatigued with the violent heat of the weather, and the many mosquitoes that had infested me.

Before I take leave of the Jerseys, it is necessary I should give some account of this province. New Jersey is situated between the 39th and 42d degrees of north latitude, and about

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seventy-five degrees west longitude: it is bounded on the east by the Atlantic, on the west by Pennsylvania, or to speak more properly the Delaware; on the south by Delaware-bay; and on the north by Hudson's river and the province of New York. The climate is nearly the same as that of Pennsylvania: and the soil, which is a kind of red slate, is so exceedingly rich, that in a short time after it has been turned up and exposed to the air and moisture, it is converted into a species of marle*.

New Jersey has very great natural advantages of hills, valleys, rivers, and large bays. The Delaware is on one side, and Hudson's river on the other; besides which it has the Raritan, Passaic, and Amboy rivers; and Newark, and New York bays. It produces vast quantities of grain, besides hemp, flax, hay, Indian corn, and other articles. It is divided into eleven counties, and has several small towns, though not one of consideration. The number of its inhabitants is supposed to be 70,000: of which, all males, between sixteen and sixty, Negroes excepted, are obliged to serve in the militia. There is no foreign trade carried on from this province; for the inhabitants sell their produce to the merchants of Philadelphia and New York, and take in return European goods and other necessaries of life. They have some trifling manufactures of their own, but nothing that deserves mentioning.

The government consists of a governor, twelve counsellors, and a house of representatives of about twenty-six members,

* Since my return from America, I have met with a gentleman (Edward Wortley Montagu, esq.) who had visited the Holy Land. He described the soil of that country to be similar in almost every circumstance to this of the Jerseys. He said, it appeared to be of a red slaty substance, sterile, and incapable of producing any thing worth the cultivation; but that being broken up and exposed to the air, it became exceedingly mellow, and was fertile in the highest degree.

the two former nominated by the king, the latter elected by the people. Each branch has a negative; they meet at Amboy and at Burlington alternately. The governor's salary, with perquisites, is about 800, or 1000 l. sterling a year; he is not allowed a house to reside in, but is obliged to hire one at his own expence. There are several courts of judicature here, much like those of the other provinces. The justices hold quarterly sessions for petty larcenies, and other trifling causes: and the supreme judge, with two assistant justices, holds, once a year, a general assize, throughout the province, of oyer and terminer, and common-pleas. He holds also annually four supreme courts, alternately at Amboy and Burlington, of king's-bench, common-pleas, and exchequer. The offices of chancellor and vice-admiral, are executed by the governor, and the dernier resort is to his majesty in council.

There is properly no established religion in this province, and the inhabitants are of various persuasions: the society sends six missionaries, who are generally well received; and the church gains ground daily. Their salaries are about the same as in Pennsylvania.

Arts and sciences are here, as in the other parts of America, just dawning. The college will in time, without doubt, be of considerable advantage, but being yet in its infancy, it has not had an opportunity of operating, or effecting any visible improvement.

The New Jersey men, as to character, are like most country gentlemen; good-natured, hospitable, and of a more liberal turn than their neighbours the Pennsylvanians. They live altogether upon their estates, and are literally gentlemen farmers. The country in its present state can scarcely be called flourishing; for although it is extremely well cultivated, thickly seated, and the garden of North America, yet, having no foreign trade, it

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is kept under; and deprived of those riches and advantages, which it would otherwise soon acquire. There have been some attempts to remedy this defect, but whether from the difficulty of diverting a thing out of a channel in which it has long flowed; or from want of propriety or perseverance, in the measures, I am unable to say; but the truth is, they have not succeeded. Upon the whole, however, this province may be called a rich one: during the present war it has raised considerable supplies, having seldom had less than 1000 men in pay, with a leader (colonel Schuyler) at their head, who has done honour to his country by his patriotic and public spirit. The paper currency of this colony is at about 70 per cent. discount, but in very good repute; and preferred by the Pennsylvanians and New-Yorkers, even to that of their own provinces.

On Wednesday the 9th of July, I crossed over to Staten Island, in the province of New York; and travelled upon it about nine miles to the point which is opposite New York city.

In my way I had an opportunity of seeing the method of making wampum. This, I am persuaded the reader knows is the current money amongst the Indians. It is made of the clam-shell; a shell, consisting within of two colours, purple and white; and in form not unlike a thick oyster-shell. The process of manufacturing it is very simple. It is first clipped to a proper size, which is that of a small oblong parallelopiped, then drilled, and afterward ground to a round smooth surface, and polished. The purple wampum is much more valuable than the white; a very small part of the shell being of that colour.

At the point I embarked for New York; and, after a pleasant passage over the bay, which is three leagues wide, and various

rious delightful prospects of rivers, islands, fields, hills, woods, the Narrows, New-York city, vessels sailing to and fro, and innumerable porpoises playing upon the surface of the water, in an evening so serene that the hemisphere was not ruffled by a single cloud, arrived there about the setting of the sun.

This city is situated upon the point of a small island, lying open to the bay on one side, and on the others included between the North and East rivers, and commands a fine prospect of water, the Jerseys, Long Island, Staten Island, and several others, which lie scattered in the bay. It contains between 2 and 3000 houses, and 16 or 17,000 inhabitants, is tolerably well built, and has several good houses. The streets are paved, and very clean, but in general they are narrow; there are two or three, indeed, which are spacious and airy, particularly the Broad Way. The houses in this street have most of them a row of trees before them; which form an agreeable shade, and produce a pretty effect. The whole length of the town is something more than a mile; the breadth of it about half an one. The situation is, I believe, esteemed healthy; but it is subject to one great inconvenience, which is the want of fresh water; so that the inhabitants are obliged to have it brought from springs at some distance out of town. There are several public buildings, though but few that deserve attention. The college, when finished, will be exceedingly handsome: it is to be built on three sides of a quadrangle, fronting Hudson's or North river, and will be the most beautifully situated of any college, I believe, in the world. At present only one wing is finished, which is of stone, and consists of twenty-four sets of apartments; each having a large sitting room, with a study, and bed chamber. They are obliged to make use of some of these apartments for a master's lodge,

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lodge, library, chapel, hall, &c. but as soon as the whole shall be completed, there will be proper apartments for each of these offices. The name of it is King's College.

There are two churches in New York, the old, or Trinity Church, and the new one, or St. George's Chapel; both of them large buildings, the former in the Gothic taste, with a spire, the other upon the model of some of the new churches in London. Besides these, there are several other places of religious worship; namely, two Low Dutch Calvinist churches, one High Dutch ditto, one French ditto, one German Lutheran church, one presbyterian meeting-house, one quakers ditto, one anabaptists do, one Moravian ditto, and a Jews synagogue. There is also a very handsome charity-school for sixty poor boys and girls, a good work-house, barracks for a regiment of soldiers, and one of the finest prisons I have ever seen. The court or stadthouse makes no great figure, but it is to be repaired and beautified. There is a quadrangular fort, capable of mounting sixty cannon, though at present there are, I believe, only thirty-two. Within this is the governor's palace, and underneath it a battery capable of mounting ninety-four guns, and barracks for a company or two of soldiers. Upon one of the islands in the bay is an hospital for sick and wounded seamen; and, upon another, a pest-house. These are the most noted public buildings in and about the city.

The province of New York is situated between the 40th and 45th degrees of north latitude, and about 75 degrees west longitude. It lies in a fine climate, and enjoys a very wholesome air. The soil of most parts of it is extremely good, particularly of Long Island: and it has the advantages of a fine harbour, and fine rivers. The bay has a communication with Newark bay, the Sound, Amboy river, and several others: it receives also Hudson's or North river, one of the largest in
North

North America, it being navigable for sloops as far as Albany, above 150 miles : from whence, by the Mohock, and other rivers, running through the country of the Six Nations, there is a communication, (excepting a few short carrying places,) with lake Ontario; and another with the river St. Laurence, through the lakes George, Champlain, and the river Sorel; so that this river seems to merit the greatest attention. These waters afford various kinds of fish, black fish, sea bass, sheeps-heads, rock-fish, lobsters, and several others, all excellent in their kind. The province in its cultivated state affords grain of all sorts, cattle, hogs, and great variety of English fruits, particularly the New-town pippin. It is divided into ten counties, and has some few towns, but none of any size, except Albany and Schenectady, the former of which is a very considerable place. The number of inhabitants amounts to near 100,000; 15 or 20,000 of which are supposed to be capable of bearing arms, and of serving in the militia; but I believe this number is exaggerated, as a considerable part of the 100,000 are Negroes, which are imported more frequently into this province than into Pennsylvania. The people carry on an extensive trade, and there are said to be cleared out annually from New York, near ton of shipping. They export chiefly grain, flour, pork, skins, furs, pig-iron, lumber, and staves. Their manufactures, indeed, are not extensive, nor by any means to be compared with those of Pennsylvania; they make a small quantity of cloth, some linen, hats, shoes, and other articles for wearing apparel. They make glass also, and wampum; refine sugars, which they import from the West Indies; and distil considerable quantities of rum. They also, as well as the Pennsylvanians, till both were restrained by act of parliament, had erected several flitting mills, to make nails, &c. But this is now prohibited, and they are exceedingly dissatisfied

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at it. They have several other branches of manufactures, but, in general, so inconsiderable, that I shall not take notice of them: one thing it may be necessary to mention, I mean the article of ship-building; about which, in different parts of the province, they employ many hands.

The government of this colony is lodged in the hands of a governor appointed by the crown; a council consisting of twelve members, named by the same authority; and a house of twenty-seven representatives, elected by the people: four for the city and county of New-York; two for the city and county of Albany; two for each of the other eight counties; one for the borough of West-Chester; one for the township of Schenectady; and one for each of the three manors of Rensselaerwyck, Livingston, and Courtland. The legislative power is intirely lodged in their hands, each branch having a negative; except that, as in the other colonies, all laws must have the king's approbation, and not interfere with, or be repugnant to, the laws of Great Britain.

The courts of judicature are similar, I believe, in every respect to those in the Jerseys.

The established religion is that of the church of England, there being six churches in this province with stipends (to the value of about 50l. currency) annexed to each by law. The clergy are twelve in number, who, exclusive of what they acquire by the establishment above-mentioned, or by contributions, receive, as missionaries from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, 50l. sterling each. Besides the religion of the church of England, there is a variety of others: dissenters of all denominations, particularly presbyterians, abound in great numbers, and there are some few Roman Catholics.

Arts

Arts and sciences have made no greater progress here than in the other colonies; but as a subscription library has been lately opened, and every one seems zealous to promote learning, it may be hoped that they will hereafter advance faster than they have done hitherto. The college is established upon the same plan as that in the Jerseys, except that this at New York professes the principles of the church of England. At present the state of it is far from being flourishing, or so good as might be wished. Its fund does not exceed 10,000 l. currency, and there is a great scarcity of professors. A commencement was held, nevertheless, this summer, and seven gentlemen took degrees. There are in it at this time about twenty-five students. The president, Dr. Johnson, is a very worthy and learned man, but rather too far advanced in life to have the direction of so young an institution. The late Dr. Bristow left to this college a fine library, of which they are in daily expectation.

The inhabitants of New York, in their character, very much resemble the Pennsylvanians: more than half of them are Dutch, and almost all traders: they are, therefore, habitually frugal, industrious, and parsimonious. Being however of different nations, different languages, and different religions, it is almost impossible to give them any precise or determinate character. The women are handsome and agreeable; though rather more reserved than the Philadelphian ladies. Their amusements are much the same as in Pennsylvania; viz. balls, and sleighing expeditions in the winter; and, in the summer, going in parties upon the water, and fishing; or making excursions into the country. There are several houses pleasantly situated upon East river, near New York, where it is common to have turtle-feasts: these happen once or twice in a week. Thirty or forty gentlemen and ladies meet and dine

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together, drink tea in the afternoon, fish and amuse themselves till evening, and then return home in Italian chaises, (the fashionable carriage in this and most parts of America, Virginia excepted, where they make use only of coaches, and these commonly drawn by six horses), a gentleman and lady in each chaise. In the way there is a bridge, about three miles distant from New York, which you always pass over as you return, called the Kissing-Bridge, where it is a part of the etiquette to salute the lady who has put herself under your protection.

The present state of this province is flourishing: it has an extensive trade to many parts of the world, particularly to the West Indies; and has acquired great riches by the commerce which it has carried on, under flags of truce, to Cape-François, and Monte-Christo. The troops, by having made it the place of their general rendezvous, have also enriched it very much. However, it is burthened with taxes, and the present public debt amounts to more than 300,000 l. currency. The taxes are laid upon estates real and personal; and there are duties upon Negroes, and other importations. The provincial troops are about 2600 men. The difference of exchange between currency and bills, is from 70 to 80 per cent.

Before I left New York, I took a ride upon Long Island, the richest spot, in the opinion of the New-Yorkers, of all America; and where they generally have their villas, or country houses. It is undeniably beautiful, and some parts of it are remarkably fertile, but not equal, I think, to the Jerseys. The length of it is something more than 100 miles, and the breadth 25. About 15 or 16 miles from the west end of it, there opens a large plain between 20 and 30 miles long, and 4 or 5 broad. There is not a tree growing upon it, and it is
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asserted that there never were any. Strangers are always carried to see this place, as a great curiosity, and the only one of the kind in North America.

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Tuesday the 5th of August, being indisposed, and unable to travel any farther by land, I embarked on board a brigantine for Rhode Island. We made sail up the Sound with a fair wind, and after about two hours, passed through Hell-gate. It is impossible to go through this place without recalling to mind the description of Scylla and Charybdis. The breadth of the Sound is here about half a mile; but the channel is very narrow, not exceeding eighty yards: the water runs with great rapidity, and in different currents, only one of which will carry a vessel through with safety; for, on one side, there is a shoal of rocks just standing above the water; and, on the other, a dreadful vortex produced by a rock lying about nine feet under the surface. So that if you get into any but the right current, you are either dashed upon the shoal, or else sucked into the eddy, whirled round with incredible rapidity, and at length swallowed up in the vortex. There are exceeding good pilots to navigate vessels through this place, notwithstanding which, they are frequently lost. The proper time of passing it is at high water. We had pleasant weather during the passage, which is about seventy leagues, with beautiful views of Long Island and Connecticut; and arrived in the harbour at Newport the 7th of August.

This town is situated upon a small island, about twelve miles in length, and five or six in breadth, called Rhode Island, from whence the province takes its name. It is the capital city, and contains about 800, or 1000 houses, chiefly built of wood; and 6 or 7000 inhabitants. There are few buildings in it worth notice. The court-house is indeed handsome, and of brick; and there is a public library, built in the form of a

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Grenian temple, by no means inelegant. It is of the Doric order, and has a portico in front with four pillars, supporting a pediment; but the whole is spoilt by two small wings, which are annexed to it. The foundation of a very pretty building is laid for the use of the free-masons, to serve also occasionally for an assembly-room; and there is to be erected a market-house, upon a very elegant design. The places of public worship, except the Jews synagogue, are all of wood; and not one of them is worth looking at. They consist chiefly of a church, two presbyterian meeting-houses, one quakers ditto, three anabaptists ditto, one Moravian ditto, and the synagogue above-mentioned. This building was designed, as indeed were several of the others, by a Mr. Harrison, an ingenious English gentleman who lives here. It will be extremely elegant within when completed: but the outside is totally spoilt by a school, which the Jews insisted on having annexed to it for the education of their children. Upon a small island, before the town, is part of a fine fortification, designed to consist of a pentagon-fort, and an upper and lower battery. Only two of the curtains, and a ravelin, are yet finished; and it is doubted whether the whole ever will be. There are now mounted upon it about 26 cannon; but the works, when complete, will require above 150. At the entrance of the harbour there is likewise an exceeding good light-house. These are the chief public buildings.

About three miles from town is an indifferent wooden house, built by dean Berkley, when he was in these parts: the situation is low, but commands a fine view of the ocean, and of some wild rugged rocks that are on the left hand of it. They relate here several strange stories of the dean's wild and chimerical notions; which, as they are characteristic of that extraordinary man, deserve to be taken notice of: one in particular

particular I must beg the reader's indulgence to allow me to repeat to him. The dean had formed the plan of building a town upon the rocks which I have just now taken notice of, and of cutting a road through a sandy beach which lies a little below it, in order that ships might come up and be sheltered in bad weather. He was so full of this project, as one day to say to one Smibert, a designer, whom he had brought over with him from Europe, on the latter's asking some ludicrous question concerning the future importance of the place, "Truly, you have very little foresight, for in fifty years time every foot of land in this place will be as valuable as the land in Cheap-side" The dean's house, notwithstanding his prediction is at present nothing better than a farm-house, and his library is converted into the dairy: when he left America, he gave it to the college at New-haven in Connecticut, who have let it to a farmer on a long lease: his books he divided between this college and that in Massachusetts. The dean is said to have written in this place *The Minute Philosopher*.

The province of Rhode Island is situated between the 41st and 42d degrees of north latitude; and about 72 or 73 degrees west longitude; in the most healthy climate of North-America. The winters are severe, though not equally so with those of the other provinces; but the summers are delightful, especially in the island; the violent and excessive heats which America is in general subject to, being allayed by the cool and temperate breezes that come from the sea. The soil is upon the whole tolerably good, though rather too stony; its natural produce is maize or Indian corn, with a variety of shrubs and trees. It produces in particular the button-tree; the spruce-pine, of the young twigs of which is made excellent beer; and the pseudo-acacia, or locust-tree; but none of those fine flowering trees, which are such an ornament to the woods in Carolina and Virginia.

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ginia. It enjoys many advantages, has several large rivers, and one of the finest harbours in the world. Fish are in the greatest plenty and perfection, particularly the tataag or black-fish, lobsters, and sea-bass. In its cultivated state, it produces very little, except sheep and horned cattle; the whole province being laid out into pasture or grazing-ground. The horses are bony and strong, and the oxen much the largest in America; several of them weighing from 16 to 1800 weight. The butter and cheese are excellent.

The province of Rhode Island is divided into counties and townships; of the former there are four or five, but they are exceedingly small; of the latter between twenty and thirty; the towns themselves are inconsiderable villages: however, they send members to the assembly, in the whole about seventy. The number of inhabitants, with Negroes, and Indians, of which in this province there are several hundreds, amounts to about 35,000. As the province affords but few commodities for exportation; horses, provisions, and an inconsiderable quantity of grain, with spermaceti candles, being the chief articles; they are obliged to Connecticut, and the neighbouring colonies, for most of their traffic; and by their means carry on an extensive trade. Their mode of commerce is this; they trade to Great Britain, Holland, Africa, the West-Indies, and the neighbouring colonies; from each of which places they import the following articles; from Great Britain, dry goods; from Holland, money; from Africa, slaves; from the West-Indies, sugars, coffee, and molasses; and from the neighbouring colonies, lumber and provisions: and with what they purchase in one place they make their returns in another. Thus with the money they get in Holland, they pay their merchants in London; the sugars they procure in the West-Indies, they carry to Holland; the slaves they fetch from Africa they send

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to the West-Indies, together with lumber and provisions, which they get from the neighbouring colonies: the rum they distill they export to Africa; and with the dry goods, which they purchase in London, they traffick in the neighbouring colonies. By this kind of circular commerce they subsist and grow rich. They have besides these some other inconsiderable branches of trade, but nothing worth mentioning. They have very few manufactures; they distil rum and make spermaceti candles; but in the article of dry goods, they are far behind the people of New York and Pennsylvania.

The government of this province is intirely democratical; every officer, except the collector of the customs, being appointed, I believe, either immediately by the people, or by the general assembly. The people chuse annually a governor, lieutenant-governor, and ten assistants, which constitute an upper-house. The representatives, or lower-house, are elected every half year. These jointly have the appointment of all other public officers, (except the recorder, treasurer, and attorney-general, which are appointed likewise annually by the people,) both military and civil; are invested with the powers of legislation, of regulating the militia, and of performing all other acts of government. The governor has no negative, but votes with the assistants, and in case of an equality has a casting voice. The assembly, or two houses united, are obliged to sit immediately after each election; at Newport in the summer, and in the winter alternately at Providence and South-Kingston in Marraganset: they adjourn themselves, but may be called together, notwithstanding such adjournment, upon any urgent occasion by the governor. No assistant, or representative is allowed any salary or pay for his attendance or service.

There are several courts of judicature. The assembly nominates annually so many justices for each township, as are judg-
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ed necessary. These have power to join people in matrimony, and to exercise other acts of authority usually granted to this order of magistrates. Any two of them may hear causes concerning small debts and trespasses; and three may even try criminals for thefts, not exceeding ten pounds currency. Appeals in civil causes are allowed to the inferior court of common-pleas; in criminal ones to the sessions of the peace; and in these the determinations are final. The sessions are held in each county twice every year by five or more justices; they adjudge all matters relative to the preservation of the peace, and the punishment of criminals, except in cases of death. Appeals are allowed from this court in all causes that have originated in it, to the superior one. The inferior courts of common-pleas sit twice every year in each county, and are held by three or more justices. They take cognizance of all civil causes whatsoever, triable at common law; and if any one thinks himself aggrieved here, he may appeal to the superior one; which is held also annually twice in each county, by three judges, and exercises all the authority of a court of king's-bench, common-pleas, and exchequer. The dernier resort is to the king in council, but this only in cases of 300*l.* value, new tenor. The people have the power of pardoning criminals, except in cases of piracy, murder, or high treason; and then it is doubted whether they can even relieve.

There is no established form of religion here; but church of England men, independents, quakers, anabaptists, Moravians, Jews, and all other sects whatsoever, have liberty to exercise their several professions. The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel sends only four missionaries.

Arts and sciences are almost unknown, except to some few individuals; and there are no public seminaries of learning; nor do the Rhode Islanders in general seem to regret the
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want of them. The institution of a library society, which has lately taken place, may possibly in time produce a change in these matters. 1760.

The character of the Rhode-Islanders is by no means engaging, or amiable: a circumstance principally owing to their form of government. Their men in power, from the highest to the lowest, are dependent upon the people, and frequently act without that strict regard to probity and honour, which ever ought invariably to influence and direct mankind. The private people are cunning, deceitful, and selfish: they live almost intirely by unfair and illicit trading. Their magistrates are partial and corrupt: and it is folly to expect justice in their courts of judicature; for he, who has the greatest influence, is generally found to have the fairest cause*. Were the governor to interpose his authority, were he to refuse to grant flags of truce †, or not to wink at abuses; he would

* The form of their judicial oath, or affirmation (says Douglass, in his Summary), does not invoke the judgments of the omniscient God, who sees in secret, but only upon peril of the penalty of perjury.—This does not seem (adds the same author in a note) to be a sacred or solemn oath, and may be illustrated by the story of two profligate thieves; one of them had stolen something, and told his friend of it: well, says his friend, but did any body see you? No: then, says his friend, it is yours as much as if you had bought it with your money. Vol. ii. p. 95.

† It was usual during the late war for several governors of North America, on receiving a pecuniary consideration, to grant to the merchants flags of truce; by which they were licensed to go to the French West Indian islands, in order to exchange prisoners. The real scope and design of the voyage was, to carry on a prohibited trade with the French, and to supply them with stores, and provisions. Two or three prisoners were sufficient to cover the design; and in order to have a store in readiness, they seldom carried more. By this abuse both governors and merchants acquired great riches. Very plausible arguments indeed might be induced against prohibiting, or even restraining a commerce of that nature: but as the wisdom of government did think fit,

at the expiration of the year be excluded from his office, the only thing perhaps which he has to subsist upon. Were the judges to act with impartiality, and to decide a cause to the prejudice or disadvantage of any great or popular leader, they would probably never be re-elected; indeed, they are incapable in general of determining the merits of a suit, for they are exceedingly illiterate, and, where they have nothing to make them partial, are managed almost intirely by the lawyers. In short, to give an idea of the wretched state of this colony, it has happened more than once, that a person has had sufficient influence to procure a fresh emission of paper-money, solely to defraud his creditors: for having perhaps borrowed a considerable sum of money, when the difference of exchange has been 1200 per cent. he has afterward, under sanction of the law, repaid only the same nominal sum in new currency, when the difference has amounted perhaps to 2500 per cent.—Such alas! is the situation and character of this colony. It is needless, after this, to observe that it is in a very declining state; for it is impossible that it should prosper under such abuses. Its West Indian trade has diminished; owing indeed, in some measure, to the other colonies having entered more largely into this lucrative branch of commerce: it has lost during the war, by the enemy, above 150 vessels: its own privateers, and it has generally had a great many, have had very ill success: having kept up a regiment of provincial troops, it has also been loaded with taxes, and many of the people have been oppressed by the

and probably with better reason, to forbid it; nothing could excuse the corrupt and mercenary spirit of those governors, who presumed to connive at and encourage it.—The honorable Francis Fauquier, lieutenant-governor of Virginia, who, amongst some few others, never could be prevailed upon to countenance it, refused at one time an offer of near 200l. for the grant of a permit to make a single voyage.

mode of collecting them: for, the assembly having determined the quota of each township, the inhabitants have been assessed by the town-council*, consisting of the assitants residing there, the justices of the town, and a few freeholders elected annually by the freemen; and these have been generally partial in their assessments, as must necessarily happen under a combination of such circumstances.—After having said so much to the disadvantage of this colony, I should be guilty of injustice and ingratitude, were I not to declare that there are many worthy gentlemen in it, who see the misfortunes of their country, and lament them; who are sensible that they arise from the wretched nature of the government, and wish to have it altered; who are courteous and polite; kind and hospitable to strangers; and capable of great acts of generosity and goodness, as I myself experienced during a very severe fit of illness which I lay under at this place.—The paper-money here is as bad as it is possible to be; the difference of exchange being at least 2500 per cent.

The 4th of September I took leave of Newport, and having crossed over the river at Bristol-ferry, where it is about a mile broad, and two other inconsiderable ferries, I arrived in the evening at Providence. This is the chief town of what was formerly called Providence Plantation in Narraganset, and is at present the second considerable town in the province of Rhode

* Each township is managed by a town-council, consisting of the assitants who reside in the town, the justices of the town, and six freeholders chosen annually by the freemen of the town; the major part of them is a quorum, with full power to manage the affairs and interest of the town to which they respectively belong, to grant licences to public houses; and are a probate-office for proving wills, and granting administration, with appeal to governor and council, as supreme ordinary. Douglas's Summary, vol. ii. p. 85.

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Island. It is situated upon a pretty large river, and is distant from Newport about thirty miles. In the morning I set out for Boston, and arrived there about sun-set, after a journey of five and forty miles. The country, which I travelled over, is chiefly grazing ground, laid out into neat inclosures, surrounded with stone walls, and rows of pseudo-acacia, or locust-trees, which are laid with their leaves to manure and fertilise the land. I passed over a beautiful fall of water in Pantucket river, upon a bridge, which is built directly over it. The fall is about twenty feet high, through several chasms in a rock, which runs diametrically cross it, and serves as a dam to hold up the water. There are two or three mills, which have been erected for the purpose of conducting the different spouts or streams of water to their respective wheels. These have taken very much from the beauty of the scene; which would otherwise be transcendently elegant; for the fall, though not large or noble, is by far the most romantic and picturesque of any I met with in my tour.

During the course of my ride from Newport, I observed prodigious flights of wild pigeons: they directed their course to the southward, and the hemisphere was never intirely free from them. They are birds of passage, of beautiful plumage, and are excellent eating. The accounts given of their numbers are almost incredible, yet they are so well attested, and the opportunities of proving the truth of them are so frequent, as not to admit of their being called in question. Towards evening they generally settle upon trees, and sit one upon another in such crouds, as sometimes to break down the largest branches. The inhabitants, at such times, go out with long poles, and knock numbers of them on the head upon the roof: for they are either so fatigued by their flight, or terrified by the obscurity

rity of the night, that they will not move, or take wing, without some great and uncommon noise to alarm them. I met with scarcely any other food at the ordinaries where I put up; and during their flight, the common people subsist almost wholly upon them.

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Boston, the metropolis of Massachusetts-Bay, in New England, is one of the largest and most flourishing towns in North America. It is situated upon a peninsula, or rather an island joined to the continent by an isthmus, or narrow neck of land, half a mile in length, at the bottom of a spacious and noble harbour, detended from the sea by a number of small islands. The length of it is nearly two miles, and the breadth of it, half a one; and it is supposed to contain 3000 houses, and 18 or 20,000 inhabitants. At the entrance of the harbour stands a very good light-house; and upon an island, about a league from the town, a considerable castle, mounting near 150 cannon: there are several good batteries about it, and one in particular very strong, built by Mr. Shirley. There are also two batteries in the town, for 16 or 20 guns each; but they are not, I believe, of any force. The buildings in Boston are in general good; the streets are open and spacious, and well-paved; and the whole has much the air of some of our best county towns in England.—The country round about it is exceedingly delightful; and from a hill, which stands close to the town, where there is a beacon erected to alarm the neighbourhood in case of any surprize, is one of the finest prospects, the most beautifully variegated, and richly grouped, of any without exception that I have ever seen.

The chief public buildings are, three churches; thirteen or fourteen meeting-houses; the governor's palace; the court-house, or exchange; Faneuil-hall; a linen manufacturing-house; a work-house; a bridewell; a public granary; and a
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very fine wharf, at least half a mile long, undertaken at the expence of a number of private gentlemen, for the advantage of unloading and loading vessels. Most of these buildings are handsome: the church, called King's Chapel, is exceedingly elegant; and fitted up in the Corinthian taste. There is also an elegant private concert-room, highly finished in the Ionic manner. I had reason to think the situation of Boston unhealthy, at least in this season of the year; as there were frequent funerals every night during my stay there.

The situation of the province of Massachusetts-Bay, including the district of Plymouth*, is between the 41st and 43d degrees of north latitude, and about 72 degrees west longitude. The climate, soil, natural produce, and improved state of it, are much the same as of Rhode Island. It is divided into counties, and townships†; and each township, if it contains forty freeholders‡, has a right to send a member to the assembly§: the present number of representatives amounts to between 130 and 140; of which Boston sends four.

* Sagadahoc and the Main, very large territories, lying north of New Hampshire, belong also to the province of Massachusetts-Bay; they were annexed to it by the new charter of 1691. The Main forms one county called the county of York, and sends three members to the council; Sagadahoc, which is annexed to it, sends one.

† Townships are generally six miles square, and divided into sixty-three equal lots, viz. one lot for the first settled minister as inheritance, one lot for the ministry as glebe-lands, one lot for the benefit of a school; the other sixty lots to sixty persons or families, who, within five years from the grant, are to erect a dwelling-house, and clear seven acres of land, fit for mowing or ploughing, &c.

‡ By the charter, every freeholder should possess 40s. freehold, or 50l. personal estate; but I believe this article has not been adhered to.

§ Every town, containing forty freeholders has a "right" to send a member to the assembly, but is not absolutely "obliged" to do so, unless it contains eighty freeholders.

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The number of souls in this province is supposed to amount to 200,000; and 40,000 of them to be capable of bearing arms. They carry on a considerable traffick, chiefly in the manner of the Rhode-Islanders: but have some material articles for exportation, which the Rhode-Islanders have not, except in a very trifling degree: these are salt fish, and vessels. Of the the latter they build annually a great number, and send them, laden with cargoes of the former, to Great Britain, where they sell them. They clear out from Boston, Salem, Marble-head, and the different ports in this province, yearly, about
ton of shipping. Exclusive of these articles, their manufactures are not large; those of spirits, fish oil, and iron, are, I believe, the most considerable. They fabricate beaver-hats, which they sell for a moidore a piece; and some years ago they erected a manufactory, with a design to encourage the Irish settlers to make linens; but at the breaking out of the war the price of labour was increased so much, that it was impossible to carry it on. Like the rest of the colonies they also endeavour to make woollens, but have not yet been able to bring them to any degree of perfection: indeed it is an article in which I think they will not easily succeed; for the American wool is not only coarse, but, in comparison of the English, exceedingly short. Upon the best inquiry I could make, I was not able to discover that any one had ever seen a staple of American wool longer than seven inches; whereas in the Counties of Lincoln and Leicester, they are frequently twenty-two inches long. In the southern colonies, at least in those parts where I travelled, there is scarcely any herbage; and whether it is owing to this, or to the excessive heat, I am ignorant; the wool is short and hairy. The northern colonies have indeed greater plenty of herbage, but are for some months covered with snow; and without a degree of
attention

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attention and care in housing the sheep, and guarding them against accidents, and wild beasts, which would not easily be compensated, it would be very difficult to increase their numbers to any great amount. The Americans seem conscious of this fact, and, notwithstanding a very severe prohibition, contrive to procure from England, every year, a considerable number of rams, in order to improve and multiply the breed. What the lands beyond the Alleghenny and upon the banks of the Ohio may be, I do not know; they are said to be very rich: but the climate I believe is not less severe; and I think, upon collating different accounts, that the severity of heat and cold is not much abated by cultivation. The air becomes dryer and more wholesome, in proportion as the woods are cut down, and the ground is cleared and cultivated; but the cold is not less piercing, nor the snow less frequent. I think therefore upon the whole, that America, though it may with particular care and attention, produce small quantities of tolerably good wool, will yet never be able to produce it in such plenty and of such a quality as to serve for the necessary consumption of its inhabitants.

The government of this province is lodged in the hands of a governor or lieutenant-governor, appointed by the king; a council of twenty-eight persons, chosen annually, with the governors approbation, by the general assembly*; and a house of representatives † annually elected by the freeholders. The

* They are chosen by the new representatives, and the last year's counsellors; so that each counsellor has a vote in his own re-election. The governor has a negative to every counsellor's election, without being obliged to assign a reason.

† Each representative must be resident in the township for which he is elected; he must also have a plurality of votes respecting the number of voters, and not in comparison only of the other candidates; he is paid for his attendance and services, and subject to a fine if he neglects them.

governor

governor commissions all the militia, and other military officers; and, with consent of the council, also nominates and appoints all civil officers, except those that are concerned in the revenue. He calls and adjourns the assembly, and has in every respect a very extensive authority. His salary, with perquisites, amounts to about 1300 l. sterling per year. The governor and council together have the probate of wills, and the power of granting administrations and divorces.

There are several courts of judicature. All actions under twenty shillings sterling are cognizable by a justice of peace, from whose determination there lies an appeal to the inferior county-court of common-pleas; and from hence to the superior provincial court in its circuits, which is also a court of oyer and terminer in criminal affairs, and is held by a chief justice and some assistant judges. In this court, if the determination is not satisfactory, a rehearing of the cause may be had with a different jury*; and even, by petition to the general assembly, a second rehearing: the dernier resort is to his majesty in council, but this only in cases of 300 l. sterling value: and the appeal must be made within fourteen days after judgment.

The established religion here, as in all the other provinces of New England, is that of the congregationalists; a religion, different in some trifling articles, though none very material, from the presbyterian. There are, besides these however, great numbers of people of different persuasions, particularly of the religion of the church of England; which seems to gain ground, and to become more fashionable every day. A church has been lately erected at Cambridge, within sight of the college; which has greatly alarmed the congregationalists, who consider it as the most fatal stroke, that could possibly have been levelled at their religion. The building is elegant,

* Juries are, I believe, appointed partly by lot, and partly by rotation.

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and the minister of it (the reverend Mr. Apthorpe,) is a very amiable young man, of shining parts, great learning, and pure and engaging manners.*

Arts and Sciences seem to have made a greater progress here, than in any other part of America. Harvard college has been founded above a hundred years; and although it is not upon a perfect plan, yet it has produced a very good effect. The arts are undeniably much forwarder in Massachusetts-Bay, than either in Pennsylvania or New York. The public buildings are more elegant; and there is a more general turn for music, painting, and the belles lettres.

The character of the inhabitants of this province is much improved, in comparison of what it was: but puritanism and a spirit of persecution is not yet totally extinguished. The gentry of both sexes are hospitable, and good-natured; there is an air of civility in their behaviour, but it is constrained by formality and preciseness. Even the women, though easiness of carriage is peculiarly characteristic of their nature, appear here with more stiffness and reserve than in the other colonies. They are formed with symmetry, are handsome, and have fair and delicate complexions; but are said universally, and even proverbially, to have very indifferent teeth.

The lower class of people are more in the extreme of this character; and, which is constantly mentioned as singularly peculiar to them, are impertinently curious and inquisitive. I was told of a gentleman of Philadelphia, who, in travelling through the provinces of New England, having met with many impertinencies, from this extraordinary turn of character,

* This gentleman, I have heard, afterward met with so much opposition and persecution from the congregationalists, that he was obliged to resign his cure, to quit the colony, and has since lived in England upon a living, (I believe in Serry, (which was given him by the late archbishop Secker.

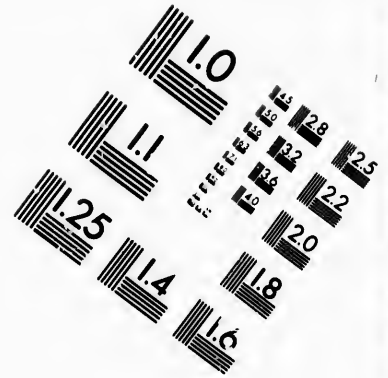
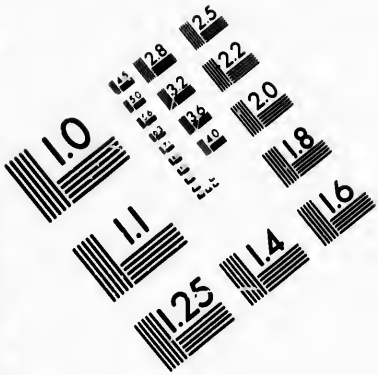
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at length fell upon an expedient almost as extraordinary, to get rid of them. He had observed, when he went into an ordinary*, that every individual of the family had a question or two to propose to him, relative to his history; and that, till each was satisfied, and they had conferred and compared together their information, there was no possibility of procuring any refreshment. He, therefore, the moment he went into any of these places, inquired for the master, the mistress, the sons, the daughters, the men-servants and the maid-servants; and having assembled them all together, he began in this manner. "Worthy people, I am B. F. of Philadelphia, by trade a —, "and a bachelor; I have some relations at Boston, to whom "I am going to make a visit: my stay will be short, and I "shall then return and follow my business, as a prudent man "ought to do. This is all I know of myself, and all I "can possibly inform you of; I beg therefore that you will "have pity upon me and my horse, and give us both some "refreshment."

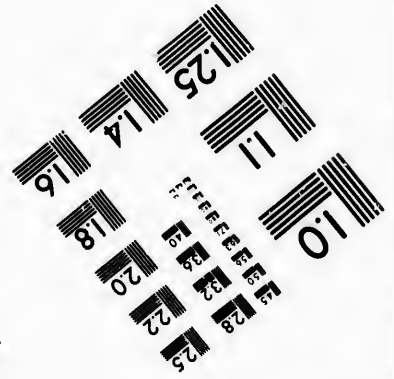
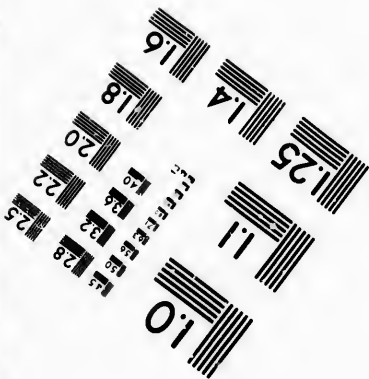
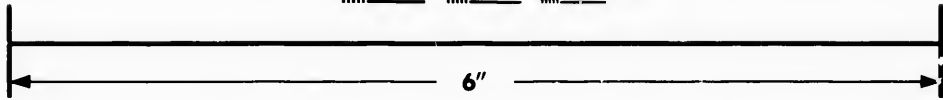
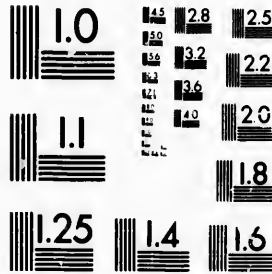
Singular situations and manners will be productive of singular customs; but frequently such as upon slight examination may appear to be the effects of mere grossness of character, will, upon deeper research, be found to proceed from simplicity and innocence. A very extraordinary method of courtship, which is sometimes practised amongst the lower people of this province, and is called Tarrying, has given occasion to this reflection. When a man is enamoured of a young woman, and wishes to marry her, he proposes the affair to her parents, (without whose consent no marriage in this colony can take place); if they have no objection, they allow him to tarry with her one night, in order to make his court to her. At their usual time the old couple retire to bed, leaving the young

* Inns are so called in America.





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ones to settle matters as they can; who, after having fate up as long as they think proper, get into bed together also, but without pulling off their under garments, in order to prevent scandal. If the parties agree, it is all very well; the banns are published, and they are married without delay. If not, they part, and possibly never see each other again; unless, which is an accident that seldom happens, the forsaken fair-one prove pregnant, and then the man is obliged to marry her, under pain of excommunication*.

The province of Massachusetts-Bay has been for some years past, I believe, rather on the decline. Its inhabitants have lost several branches of trade, which they are not likely to recover again. They formerly supplied, not only Connecticut, but other parts of the continent, with dry goods, and received specie in return: but since the introduction of paper-currency they have been deprived of great part of this commerce. Their ship-trade is considerably decreased, owing to their not having been so careful in the construction of vessels as formerly: their fisheries too have not been equally successful: they have had

* A gentleman sometime ago travelling upon the frontiers of Virginia, where there are very few settlements, was obliged to take up his quarters one evening at a miserable plantation; where, exclusive of a Negro or two, the family consisted of a man and his wife, and one daughter about sixteen years of age. Being fatigued, he presently desired them to shew him where he was to sleep; accordingly they pointed to a bed in a corner of the room where they were sitting. The gentleman was a little embarrassed, but being excessively weary, he retired, half undressed himself, and got into bed. After some time the old gentlewoman came to bed to him, after her the old gentleman, and last of all the young lady. This, in a country excluded from all civilized society, could only proceed from simplicity and innocence: and indeed it is a general and true observation, that forms and observances become necessary, and are attended to, in proportion as manners become corrupt, and it is found expedient to guard against vice, and that design and duplicity of character, which, from the nature of things, will ever prevail in large and cultivated societies.

also

also a considerable number of provincial troops in pay during the course of the present war. and have been burthened with heavy taxes. These have been laid upon estates, real and personal. Some merchants in Boston, I have been credibly informed, have paid near 400 l. sterling annually.—Assessments are made by particular officers, who, with the select-men, constables, overseers, and several others, are elected annually by the freemen, for the direction and management of each particular township.

There is less paper-money in this colony, than in any other of America: the current coin is chiefly gold and silver: and Boston is the only place, I believe, where there is a mint to coin money.

I was told of a very impolitic law in force in this province, which forbids any master, or commander of a vessel to bring strangers into the colony, without giving security that they shall not become chargeable to it.

Upon the whole, however, notwithstanding what has been said, Massachusetts-bay is a rich, populous, and well-cultivated province.—

I cannot take leave of it without relating a very extraordinary story, communicated to me by persons of undoubted credit, as it further tends to illustrate the character and manners of its inhabitants.

Some years ago, a commander of one of majesty's ships of war being stationed at this place, had orders to cruise from time to time, in order to protect our trade, and distress the enemy. It happened unluckily that he returned from one of his cruises on a Sunday; and as he had left his lady at Boston, the moment she heard of the ship's arrival, she hastened down to the waters side, in order to receive him. The captain, on landing, embraced her with tenderness and affection: this, as there were many spectators by, gave great offence, and was considered as an act of indecency, and a flagrant profanation of the Sabbath.

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bath. The next day, therefore, he was summoned before the magistrates, who, with many severe rebukes and pious exhortations, ordered him to be publicly whipped. The captain stifled his indignation and resentment as much as possible, and as the punishment, from the frequency of it, was not attended with any great degree of ignominy or disgrace, he mixed with the best company, was well received by them, and they were apparently good friends. — At length the time of the station expired, and he was recalled: he went, therefore, with seeming concern to take leave of his worthy friends; and that they might spend one more happy day together before their final separation, he invited the principal magistrates and select men to dine with him on board his ship, upon the day of his departure. They accepted the invitation, and nothing could be more joyous and convivial than the entertainment which he gave them. At length the fatal moment arrived that was to separate them: the anchor was apeak, the sails were unfurled and nothing was wanting but the signal to get under way. The captain, after taking an affectionate leave of his worthy friends, accompanied them upon deck, where the boatswain and crew were in readiness to receive them. He there thanked them afresh for the civilities they had shown him, of which, he said, he should retain an eternal remembrance; and to which he wished it had been in his power to have made a more adequate return. One point of civility only remained to be adjusted between them, which, as it was in his power, so he meant most justly to recompense to them. He then reminded them of what had passed, and ordering the crew to pinion them, had them brought one by one to the gang-way; where the boatswain stripped off their shirts, and with a cat of nine tails laid on the back of each forty stripes save one. They were then, amidst the shouts and acclamations of the crew, shoved into their
their

their boats : and the captain immediately getting under way, failed for England *. 1760.

The 12th of October I embarked on board his majesty's ship the Winchester, of fifty guns, captain Hale commander, for the river Piscataqua, in New Hampshire ; and we came to an anchor there the next day, after a pleasant passage.

The capital of this province is Portsmouth, which is situated upon the river : it is an inconsiderable place, and chiefly built of wood. Very little can be said of the province of New Hampshire, materially different from what has been said of Massachusetts-bay.—The climate, produce, trade, government, religion, and manners of it are much the same.—There are supposed to be about 40,000 inhabitants, 8000 militia, and 6 or 700 provincial troops.—There are only two missionaries of the church of England, and one of these has lately applied to be removed to Rhode Island.—The chief articles for exportation are fish, cattle, ships, of which they annually build near 200, and masts for the royal navy. These are made of the white pine, and are, I believe, the finest in the world, many of them being forty yards long, and as many inches in diameter. They never cut them down but in times of deep snow, as it would be impossible in any other season to get them down to the river. When the trees are fallen, they yoke seventy or eighty pair of oxen, and drag them along the snow. It is exceedingly difficult to put them first in motion, which they call raising them ; and when they have once effected this, they

* This story has lately appeared in one of the English News Papers, told with much humour, and with some difference respecting the occasion and mode of the captain's punishment. The author cannot take upon himself to say which account may be most exact, but he has chosen to abide by that which he heard at Boston. They either of them serve to characterise the people, and to answer the author's purpose in relating it.

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never stop upon any account whatsoever till they arrive at the waters side. Frequently some of the oxen are taken ill; upon which they immediately cut them out of the gears; and are sometimes obliged, I was told, to destroy five or six pair of them.—The forests, where these masts grow, are reserved to the crown, which appoints a surveyor of them;—who is commonly the governor of this province. This is not the only expedient employed by government for the preservation of such trees as may be of use for the royal navy; for there is an act of parliament, I believe, which prohibits, under pain of certain fines and penalties, the cutting down, or destroying of any white pine-tree of specified dimensions, not growing within the boundaries of any township, without his majesty's licence, in any of the provinces of New England, New York, or New Jersey: a restriction absolutely necessary, whether considered as securing a provision for the navy, or as a check upon that very destructive practice, taken from the Indians, of fire-hunting. It used to be the custom for large companies to go into the woods in the winter, and to set fire to the brush and underwood, in a circle of several miles. This circle gradually contracting itself, the deer, and other wild animals, inclosed, naturally retired from the flames, till at length they got herded together in a very small compass. Now, blinded and suffocated by the smoke, and scorched by the fire, which every moment came nearer to them, they forced their way, under the greatest trepidation and dismay, through the flames; and were no sooner got into the open day-light again, than they were shot by the hunters, who stood without, and were in readiness to fire upon them.—The trees included within the circle, although not absolutely burnt down, were so dried and injured, that they never vegetated any more: and as the fire did not only contract itself inwardly, but dilated also
outwardly,

outwardly, and sometimes continued burning for several weeks, till rain, or some accidental circumstance put it out; it is incredible what injury and devastation it occasioned in the woods. —I was once a spectator of a similar fire in Virginia, which happened through accident. Nothing could be more awful and tremendous than the sight. It was of great extent, and burned several weeks before the inhabitants could subdue it. They effected it at last by cutting away the under-wood, in wide and long avenues, to leeward of the fire, by which it was deprived of the means of communicating or spreading any farther.—In Virginia (and, I believe, the other colonies), there is an express act of assembly, passed in the 12th year of his late majesty, to forbid this practice.

The province of New Hampshire, I was informed at Portsmouth, has grown rich during the war, by the loss of its own vessels; they having been commonly insured above value.—

The currency here is extremely bad, not better than that in Rhode Island.—

Having travelled over so large a tract of this vast continent, before I bid a final farewell to it, I must beg the reader's indulgence, while I stop for a moment, and as it were from the top of a high eminence, take one general retrospective look at the whole.—An idea, strange as it is visionary, has entered into the minds of the generality of mankind, that empire is travelling westward; and every one is looking forward with eager and impatient expectation to that destined moment, when America is to give law to the rest of the world. But if ever an idea was illusory and fallacious, I will venture to predict, that this will be so.

America is formed for happiness, but not for empire: in a course of 1200 miles I did not see a single object that solicited

1762. charity; but I saw insuperable causes of weakness, which will prevent its being a potent state.

Our colonies may be distinguished into the southern and northern; separated from each other by the Susquehannah and that imaginary line which divides Maryland from Pennsylvania.

The southern colonies have so many inherent causes of weakness, that they never can possess any real strength.—The climate operates very powerfully upon them, and renders them indolent, inactive, and unenterprising; this is visible in every line of their character. I myself have been a spectator, and it is not an uncommon sight, of a man in the vigour of life, lying upon a couch, and a female slave standing over him, wafting off the flies, and fanning him, while he took his repose.

The southern colonies (Maryland, which is the smallest and most inconsiderable, alone excepted) will never be thickly settled: for as they are not confined within determinate limits, but extend to the westward indefinitely; men, sooner than apply to laborious occupations, occupations militating with their dispositions, and generally considered too as the inheritance and badge of slavery, will gradually retire westward, and settle upon fresh lands, which are said also to be more fertile; where, by the servitude of a negroe or two, they may enjoy all the satisfaction of an easy and indolent independency; hence the lands upon the coast will of course remain thin of inhabitants.

The mode of cultivation by slavery, is another insurmountable cause of weakness. The number of Negroes in the southern colonies is upon the whole nearly equal, if not superior, to that of the white men, and they propagate and increase even faster.—Their condition is truly pitiable; their labour excessively hard, their diet poor and scanty, their treatment cruel
and

and oppressive. They cannot but be a subject of terror to those who so inhumanly tyrannize over them.

The Indians near the frontiers are a still farther formidable cause of subjection. The southern Indians are numerous, and are governed by a sounder policy than formerly: experience has taught them wisdom. They never make war with the colonists without carrying terror and devastation along with them. They sometimes break up intire counties together.—Such is the state of the southern colonies.—

The northern colonies are of stronger stamina, but they have other difficulties and disadvantages to struggle with, not less arduous, or more easy to be surmounted, than what have been already mentioned. Their limits being defined, they will undoubtedly become exceedingly populous: for though men will readily retire back towards the frontiers of their own colony, yet they will not so easily be induced to settle beyond them, where different laws and politics prevail, and where, in short, they are a different people: but in proportion to want of territory, if we consider the proposition in a general and abstract light, will be want of power.—But the northern colonies have still more positive and real disadvantages to contend with. They are composed of people of different nations, different manners, different religions, and different languages. They have a mutual jealousy of each other, fomented by considerations of interest, power, and ascendancy. Religious zeal too, like a smothered fire, is secretly burning in the hearts of the different sectaries that inhabit them, and were it not restrained by laws and superior authority, would soon burst out into a flame of universal persecution. Even the peaceable Quakers struggle hard for pre-eminence, and evince in a very striking manner, that the passions of mankind are much stronger than any principles of religion.

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The colonies, therefore, separately considered are internally weak; but it may be supposed, that, by an union or coalition, they would become strong and formidable; but an union seems almost impossible. One founded in dominion or power is morally so: for were not England to interfere, the colonies themselves so well understand the policy of preserving a balance, that, I think, they would not be idle spectators, were any of the colonies to endeavour to subjugate its next neighbour. Indeed, it appears to me a very doubtful point, even supposing all the colonies of America were to be united under one head, whether it would be possible to keep in due order and government so wide and extended an empire; the difficulties of communication, of intercourse, of correspondence, and all other obstacles considered.

A voluntary association or coalition, at least a permanent one, is almost as difficult to be supposed: for fire and water are not more heterogeneous than the different colonies in North America. Nothing can exceed the jealousy and emulation, which they possess in regard to each other. The inhabitants of Pennsylvania and New York have an inexhaustible source of animosity, in their jealousy for the trade of the Jerseys. Massachusetts-Bay and Rhode Island, are not less interested in that of Connecticut. The West Indies are a common subject of emulation to them all. Even the limits and boundaries of each colony, are a constant source of litigation.—In short, such is the difference of character, of manners, of religion, of interest, of the different colonies, that I think, if I am not wholly ignorant of the human mind, were they left to themselves, there would soon be a civil war, from one end of the continent to the other; while the Indians and Negroes would, with better reason, impatiently watch the opportunity of exterminating them all together.

After

After all, however, supposing what I firmly believe never will take place, a permanent union or alliance of all the colonies, yet it could not be effectual, or productive of the event supposed; for such is the extent of coast settled by the American colonies, that it can never be defended but by a maritime power: America must first be mistress of the sea, before she can be independent, or mistress of herself. Suppose the colonies ever so populous; suppose them capable of maintaining 100,000 men constantly in arms, (a supposition in the highest degree extravagant), yet half a dozen frigates would, with ease, ravage and lay waste the whole country from end to end, without a possibility of their being able to prevent it; the country is so intersected by rivers, of such magnitude, as to render it impossible to build bridges over them, that all communication is in a manner cut off. An army under such circumstances could never act to any purpose or effect, its operations would be totally frustrated.

Further, a great part of the opulence and power of America depends upon her fisheries, and her commerce with the West Indies; she cannot subsist without them; but these would be intirely at the mercy of that power, which might have the sovereignty of the seas. I conclude therefore, that England, so long as she maintains her superiority in that respect, will also possess a superiority in America; but the moment she loses the empire of the one, she will be deprived of the sovereignty of the other: for were that empire to be held by France, Holland, or any other power, America, I will venture to predict, will be annexed to it.—New establishments formed in the interior parts of America, will not come under this predicament. I should therefore think it the best policy to enlarge the present colonies, but not to establish fresh ones;
for.

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for to suppose interior colonies to be of use to the mother-country, by being a check upon those already settled, is to suppose what is contrary to experience, and the nature of things, viz. that men removed beyond the reach of power will be subordinate to it.

October 20, I embarked again on board the Winchester, for England; and arrived in Plymouth found the 21st of November, after a rough and tempestuous voyage.

	Days	Hour	Ther.	Wind	Weather.	Hour
						2. After.
96	Vital heat.	1	8			
		2				
		3				
85	Very hot.	4				
		5				
		6				
		7				
75	Hot	8				
		9				
		10				
65	Warm air.	11				
		12				
		13				
		14	10	N. W.	Quite clear	- - -
55	Temperate.	15	10	N. W.	Clouded	- - -
		16	20	N. W.	Snow	- - -
		17	26	N. W.	Rain and freezing hard	- - -
45	Cold air.	18	34	S. W.	A thaw	- - -
		19	36	S. W.	A thaw	- - -
		20	49	S. E.	Rain	- - -
		21	36	N. E.	Rain	- - -
32	Froft.	22	23	N. W.	Quite clear	- - -
		23	19	N. E.	Quite clear	- - -
		24	25	S. W.	Quite clear	- - -
		25	30	S. W.	Quite clear	- - -
		26	25	S. E.	Quite clear	- - -
20	Hard froft.	27	40	S. W.	Rain	- - -
		28	24	S. W.	Quite clear	- - -
		29	34	N. W.	Little cloudy	- - -
12	Froft 1740.	30	34	S. W.	Cloudy	- - -
	Froft 1709.	31	24	N. W.	Quite clear	- - -

Days	Hour	Ther.	Wind	Weather	Hour 2. After.
1	8	30	S. W.	Sleet and rain	-
2	—	26	S. E.	Quite clear	-
3	—	21	N. W.	Quite clear	-
4	—	31	S. E.	Quite clear	-
5	—	46	S.	Clouded	-
6	—	49	E.	Little clouded	62
7	—	46	S. W.	Quite clear	62
8	—	49	N. E.	Quite clear	58
9	—	33	E.	Quite clear	-
10	—	38	N. E.	Clouded	52
11	—	37	N.	Quite clear	-
12	—	28	S. W.	Quite clear	-
13	—	52	S. W.	Little clouded	66
14	—	56	S. W.	Hazy	70
15	—	38	N.	Misty rain	-
16	—	35	N.	Little cloudy	-
17	—	34	N. W.	Clouded, little snow	-
18	—	22	N. W.	Quite clear	30
19	—	25	S. W.	Quite clear	43
20	—	34	S. E.	Hazy	48
21	—	41	S.	Hazy	64
22	—	49	W.	Quite clear	56
23	—	36	N. W.	Quite clear	-
24	—	40	S. W.	Little cloudy	-
25	—	45	S. E.	Quite clear	56
26	—	53	S.	Hazy	72
27	—	59	N. E.	Clouded	76
28	—	49	N. E.	Clouded	54
29	—	42	N. E.	Rain	37

Days	Hour	Ther.	Wind	Weather	Hour 2. After.
1	8	32	E.	Clouded - - -	
2	—	34	N.	Little cloudy - - -	
3	—	40	N. E.	Clouded - - -	54
4	—	51	S. W.	Showery and windy - - -	59
5	—	40	W.	Little cloudy and windy - - -	45
6	—	35	S. W.	Quite clear - - -	52
7	—	45	S. W.	Hazy - - -	54
8	—	48	S. W.	Rain - - -	50
9	—	35	N.	Misling rain - - -	38
10	—	32	W.	Clouded - - -	45
11	—	32	N. E.	Little cloudy - - -	43
12	—	35	S. E.	Clouded - - -	54
13	—	49	S. E.	Rain - - -	54
14	—	45	N. E.	Misling rain - - -	43
15	—	37	N. E.	Clouded - - -	39
16	—	30	N.	Thick snow - - -	32
17	—	26	N. W.	Snow - - -	32
18	—	27	N. W.	Quite clear - - -	38
19	—	39	S. W.	Clouded - - -	52
20	—	41	N. W.	Cloudy - - -	38
21	—	29	N. E.	Snow - - -	34
22	—	36	N. E.	Rain - - -	39
23	—	39	E.	Little cloudy - - -	50
24	—	45	E.	Little cloudy - - -	52
25	—	49	S. E.	Little cloudy - - -	56
26	—	41	N. W.	Quite clear - - -	48
27	—	43	S. W.	Quite clear - - -	54
28	—	53	S. W.	Quite clear - - -	70
29	—	64	S. W.	Hazy - - -	74
30	—	57	S. W.	Rain - - -	67
31	—	66	W.	Showery - - -	64

Days	Hour	Ther.	Wind	Weather	Hour.
					2. After.
1	8	49	N. W.	Quite clear	55
2	—	50	S.	Quite clear	67
3	—	61	S. W.	Clouded	70
4	—	65	S. E.	Quite clear	76
5	—	70	W.	Quite clear, thunder	79
6	—	57	E.	Clouded	60
7	—	50	N. W.	Thunder, clouded	65
8	—	47	N. E.	Thunder, clouded	50
9	—	45	N. E.	Clouded	50
10	—	64	S. W.	Little cloudy, thunder	85
11	—	44	N. E.	Small rain	52
12	—	53	N. E.	Little cloudy	56
13	—	53	S. E.	Clouded	69
14	—	67	S. W.	Little cloudy	73
15	—	70	S. W.	Cloudy, thunder	80
16	—	48	N. W.	Little cloudy	58
17	—	53	S. E.	Clouded	50
18	—	45	N. E.	Clouded	50
19	—	55	W.	Quite clear	72
20	—	59	S. W.	Quite clear, thunder	77
21	—	64	E.	Quite clear	77
22	—	65	S. E.	Clouded	75
23	—	65	S. W.	Cloudy and showers	76
24	—	67	S. E.	Quite clear	70
25	—	70	S. E.	Quite clear	80
26	—	74	S. W.	Quite clear	84
27	—	77	S. W.	Quite clear, thunder	85
28	—	70	S. W.	Quite clear	80
29	—	65	N. W.	Quite clear	69
30	—	62	N. W.	Quite clear	60

Days	Hour	Ther.	Wind	Weather	Hour 2. After.
1	8	50	N. W.	Quite clear - - -	60
2	—	56	N. E.	Little cloudy - - -	64
3	—	52	W.	Quite clear - - -	64
4	—	64	S. W.	Quite clear - - -	74
5	—	65	S. W.	Foggy, little rain - - -	74
6	—	58	N. E.	Clouded - - -	63
7	—	60	N. E.	Quite clear - - -	69
8	—	60	S. E.	Quite clear - - -	73
9	—	72	S. W.	Quite clear - - -	81
10	—	71	S. W.	Quite clear, thunder - - -	80
11	—	65	N. E.	Little cloudy - - -	70
12	—	58	N. E.	Rain, thunder - - -	57
13	—	60	S. W.	Cloudy, thunder - - -	70
14	—	68	N. W.	Cloudy - - -	70
15	—	67	W.	Little cloudy - - -	72
16	—	73	S. W.	Clouded, little rain - - -	77
17	—	78	S. W.	Little cloudy - - -	83
18	—	74	W.	Cloudy, thunder - - -	78
19	—	68	N. W.	Cloudy - - -	75
20	—	66	N. W.	Little cloudy - - -	75
21	—	72	N. E.	Quite clear - - -	75
22	—	64	N. E.	Rain,—thunder - - -	61
23	—	58	N. E.	Clouded - - -	69
24	—	73	W.	Rain,—thunder - - -	63
25	—	71	N. W.	Quite clear - - -	78
26	—	76	—	Thunder - - -	82
27	—	61	—	- - -	68
28	—	64	—	- - -	70
29	—	64	—	- - -	70
30	—	69	—	- - -	75
31	—	71	—	- - -	75

Days	Hour	Ther.	Wind	Weather.				Hour
								2. After.
1	8	77	—	-	-	-	-	80
2	—	77	—	-	-	-	-	83
3	—	80	—	-	-	-	-	83
4	—	83	—	Thunder	-	-	-	88
5	—	62	—	Rain	-	-	-	70
6	—	65	—	Thunder	-	-	-	63
7	—	65	—	-	-	-	-	73
8	—	67	—	-	-	-	-	78
9	—	70	—	Rain	-	-	-	75
10	—	65	—	-	-	-	-	75
11	—	74	—	-	-	-	-	81
12	—	78	—	-	-	-	-	89
13	—	80	—	-	-	-	-	87
14	—	82	—	-	-	-	-	89
15	—	86	—	-	-	-	-	91
16	—	90	—	Thunder	-	-	-	90
17	—	78	—	Thunder	-	-	-	87
18	—	73	—	High wind	-	-	-	75
19	—	66	—	-	-	-	-	75
20	—	78	—	-	-	-	-	83
21	—	80	—	-	-	-	-	89
22	—	73	—	-	-	-	-	75
23	—	68	—	Rain, thnnder	-	-	-	80
24	—	72	—	-	-	-	-	78
25	—	76	—	-	-	-	-	79
26	—	73	—	-	-	-	-	80
27	—	76	—	Thunder	-	-	-	80
28	—	80	—	-	-	-	-	85
29	—	81	—	-	-	-	-	83
30	—	75	—	-	-	-	-	83.

Days	Hour	Ther.	Wind	Weather.	Hour
					After.
1	8	80	---	Thunder	86
2	---	75	---	-	82
3	---	81	---	-	89
4	---	87	---	Thunder	92
5	---	75	---	Rain	76
6	---	72	---	-	78
7	---	72	---	-	80
8	---	71	---	Small rain	78
9	---	73	---	Rain	83
10	---	75	---	-	80
11	---	84	---	-	86
12	---	84	---	-	88
13	---	86	---	-	92
14	---	87	---	-	92
15	---	87	---	-	91
16	---	83	---	Thunder	83
17	---	77	---	Rain	81
18	---	75	---	Rain	84
19	---	80	---	Rain	83
20	---	77	---	Rain	78
21	---	75	---	-	87
22	---	80	---	Thunder	88
23	---	84	---	Thunder	93
24	---	83	---	-	93
25	---	89	---	Thunder	94
26	---	80	---	-	80
27	---	78	---	-	80
28	---	74	---	-	77
29	---	80	---	-	81
30	---	80	---	-	82
31	---	72	---	Rain	78

Days	Hour	Ther.	Wind	Weather				Hour After.
1	—	77	—	-	-	-	-	84
2	—	77	—	-	-	-	-	81
3	—	75	—	Rain	-	-	-	78
4	—	73	—	-	-	-	-	78
5	—	74	—	Rain	-	-	-	84
6	—	83	—	-	-	-	-	89
7	—	85	—	-	-	-	-	90
8	—	85	—	-	-	-	-	91
9	—	87	—	Thunder	-	-	-	92
10	—	87	—	-	-	-	-	91
11	—	89	—	-	-	-	-	93
12	—	89	—	Thunder	-	-	-	94
13	—	90	—	Thunder	-	-	-	94
14	—	80	—	Rain	-	-	-	86
15	—	84	—	Thunder	-	-	-	88
16	—	79	—	-	-	-	-	87
17	—	84	—	-	-	-	-	86
18	—	80	—	-	-	-	-	88
19	—	83	—	-	-	-	-	88
20	—	78	—	-	-	-	-	83
21	—	72	—	-	-	-	-	79
22	—	78	—	Rain	-	-	-	83
23	—	76	—	-	-	-	-	84
24	—	77	—	-	-	-	-	84
25	—	83	—	-	-	-	-	86
26	—	76	—	-	-	-	-	83
27	—	84	—	-	-	-	-	89
28	—	72	—	Thunder	-	-	-	78
29	—	—	—	-	-	-	-	—
30	—	—	—	-	-	-	-	—
31	—	31	—	-	-	-	-	96

Days	Hour	Ther.	Wind	Weather	Hour. 2. After.
1	8	85	—	Thunder	88
2	—	78	—	-	80
3	—	83	—	Thunder	88
4	—	80	—	-	82
5	—	70	—	-	76
6	—	73	—	-	78
7	—	73	—	-	78
8	—	75	—	-	81
9	—	80	—	-	86
10	—	80	—	A shower	87
11	—	80	—	-	86
12	—	80	—	-	83
13	—	76	—	-	78
14	—	69	—	-	80
15	—	82	—	A shower	91
16	—	71	—	-	72
17	—	67	—	Rain	72
18	—	55	—	-	62
19	—	64	—	-	68
20	—	52	—	-	65
21	—	49	—	-	64
22	—	63	—	-	76
23	—	71	—	-	79
24	—	62	—	-	70
25	—	52	—	-	64
26	—	52	—	-	69
27	—	58	—	-	71
28	—	64	—	-	77
29	—	59	—	Rain	67
30	—	58	—	-	67

Days	Hour	Ther.	Wind	Weather				Hour 2. After.
1	8	54	—	-	-	-	-	63
2	—	54	—	-	-	-	-	67
3	—	55	—	-	-	-	-	70
4	—	57	—	-	-	-	-	73
5	—	58	—	-	-	-	-	63
6	—	57	—	Mifling rain	-	-	-	57
7	—	57	—	-	-	-	-	59
8	—	58	—	-	-	-	-	67
9	—	62	—	-	-	-	-	68
10	—	62	—	-	-	-	-	70
11	—	62	—	-	-	-	-	70
12	—	50	—	-	-	-	-	66
13	—	62	—	Rain	-	-	-	78
14	—	70	—	-	-	-	-	68
15	—	49	—	-	-	-	-	60
16	—	49	—	-	-	-	-	59
17	—	45	—	Little rain	-	-	-	62
18	—	50	—	-	-	-	-	68
19	—	54	—	-	-	-	-	70
20	—	50	—	-	-	-	-	53
21	—	48	—	-	-	-	-	59
22	—	43	—	-	-	-	-	57
23	—	42	—	Rain	-	-	-	60
24	—	63	—	-	-	-	-	71
25	—	50	—	-	-	-	-	58
26	—	48	—	-	-	-	-	69
27	—	50	—	-	-	-	-	63
28	—	—	—	Rain	-	-	-	60
29	—	45	—	-	-	-	-	43
30	—	43	—	-	-	-	-	49
31	—	30	—	-	-	-	-	—

1760.

N O V E M B E R.

105

Days	Hour	Ther.	Wind	Weather	Hour After.
1	8	43	—	- - -	-
2					
3					
4					61
5	—	47	—	- - -	67
6	—	50	—	- - -	70
7	—	50	—	- - -	55
8	—	54	—	- - -	48
9	—	40	—	- - -	43
10	—	35	—	- - -	45
11	—	30	—	- - -	60
12	—	43	—	- - -	52
13	—	42	—	- - -	47
14	—	40	—	- - -	46
15	—	30	—	- - -	60
16	—	42	—	- - -	37
17	—	33	—	Little snow	36
18	—	25	—	- - -	38
19	—	27	—	- - -	48
20	—	35	—	- - -	47
21	—	36	—	- - -	51
22	—	28	—	- - -	58
23	—	38	—	- - -	64
24	—	48	—	- - -	54
25	—	48	—	Little rain	60
26	—	49	—	Rain	55
27	—	51	—	Rain	52
28	—	41	—	- - -	45
29	—	36	—	- - -	46
30	—	33	—	- - -	

Q

Days	Hour	Ther.	Wind	Weather.					Hour After.
1	8	30	—	-	-	-	-	-	
2	—	34	—	-	-	-	-	-	46
3	—	41	—	Rain	-	-	-	-	49
4	—	51	—	-	-	-	-	-	47
5	—	38	—	-	-	-	-	-	56
6	—	35	—	-	-	-	-	-	47
7	—	38	—	-	-	-	-	-	46
8	—	35	—	-	-	-	-	-	48
9	—	44	—	Rain	-	-	-	-	45
10	—	55	—	Rain	-	-	-	-	49
11	—	40	—	-	-	-	-	-	57
12	—	44	—	-	-	-	-	-	55
13	—	29	—	-	-	-	-	-	51
14	—	32	—	-	-	-	-	-	46
15	—	48	—	-	-	-	-	-	47
16	—	63	—	Rain	-	-	-	-	65
17	—	27	—	-	-	-	-	-	69
18	—	30	—	Snow	-	-	-	-	35
19	—	21	—	-	-	-	-	-	32
20	—	24	—	Rain	-	-	-	-	34
21	—	44	—	Misting rain	-	-	-	-	38
22	—	32	—	-	-	-	-	-	55
23	—	—	—	-	-	-	-	-	44
24	—	25	—	-	-	-	-	-	
25	—	23	—	-	-	-	-	-	37
26	—	32	—	-	-	-	-	-	38
27	—	42	—	-	-	-	-	-	53
28	—	42	—	Rain	-	-	-	-	54
29	—	44	—	-	-	-	-	-	—
30	—	27	—	-	-	-	-	-	44
31	—	24	—	-	-	-	-	-	35
									35

F I N I S.

E R R A T A.

- Page 7. line 7. for pleuretical, read pleuritical.
8. Antepen. for Boquet, read Bouquet.
9. near the bottom, for melt, read smelt.
24. note, for if, read it.
37. towards the middle, after "beauty", add "or."
46. note, for fields, read field.
71. near the bottom, for Marraganfer, read Narraganfer.
-

Lately published by the same Author.

A SERMON on the Nature of Subscription to Articles
of Religion, preached before the Rev. John Law, A. M.
Archdeacon of Rochester at his Visitation held at Brom-
ley, on June 7th 1774.

