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HENRY;

OR,

THE JUVENILE TRAVELLER.

Wilson & Son, Printers, 57, Skinner-Street, London.

HENRY;

OR,

THE JUVENILE TRAVELLER.

A FAITHFUL DELINEATION OF A VOYAGE ACROSS THE ATLANTIC, IN

A NEW YORK PACKET;

A DESCRIPTION OF A PART OF THE UNITED STATES—MANNERS
AND CUSTOMS OF THE PEOPLE;

A JOURNEY TO CANADA; WITH AN ACCOUNT OF THE COLONIES—
EMIGRATION—SKETCHES OF SOCIETY—EXPENSES OF
TRAVELLING—SCENERY, ETC. ETC.

BY THE

WIFE OF A BRITISH OFFICER,

RESIDENT IN CANADA.

LONDON:
SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, AND CO.
STATIONERS'-HALL-COURT.
1836.



ADDRESS.

In offering to her youthful friends and the public the little work of "HENRY, or the JUVENILE TRAVELLER," the Authoress cannot presume to anticipate either a harvest of fame or emolument: her ambition. however, would lead her to hope that her volume trifling as it may appear, will not be wholly destitute of interest, but upon perusal will be found to contain some useful information, blended with a faithful and correct statement of facts, which it has been her endeavour to pourtray in a manner which she judged would be most likely to be read with pleasurable feeling by those for whom it is chiefly designed; and she trusts that the eye of scrutiny will not be

able to detect throughout her pages the spirit of detraction or malevolence: she has spoken of persons, places, and things, as she found them, strictly adhering to the principle,—that her pen should not be guided by prejudice, or influenced by circumstances.

Lower Canada, 1835.

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THE JUVENILE TRAVELLER.

CHAPTER I.

The Embarkation.

"Away! away! the ship rides fast On the North wind's eagle wings, Gracefully she bows her mast, And onward, onward springs."

"And shall we not return to England for a very rery long time, mamma?" said little Henry B—, addressing his mother, as they entered the London Docks, for the purpose of embarking in the packet-ship Columbia, for New York.

"The period of our absence is uncertain, my dear," was the reply. "You know we are going to join your papa in Canada, and as he is an officer in his Majesty's service, his movements

do not depend upon himself: I hope our absence from our native land will not be very long, but that, when the period allotted for your father's services in Canada may have expired, we shall return to our valued friends, and to dear Old England, which nature and early associations have taught us to love beyond any other country."

The conversation between Henry and his mother was here interrupted by an announcement that the packet was under weigh, and would leave the dock immediately.

Before we advance in our narrative, it will perhaps be gratifying to our young readers to learn a little more of Henry's history, whom we consider a smart intelligent boy of his age, having hardly attained his tenth year, when he embarked with his mamma and sister, on a passage to New York to join his father, who we have already stated to be an officer in his Majesty's service, and was then stationed in Canada. quence of the public duties of this parent, the education of his little son had hitherto chiefly. devolved on his mother, who, although of a true indulgent disposition, loved her child too well to spoil him: to make him wise and happy had been with her a consideration of the greatest magnitude: the first of these blessings she knew

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he could not enjoy if suffered to contract habits of idleness; he was, therefore, never allowed to. be unemployed; and in the hope that he might obtain the second important object, special care had been taken to instil into his young mind such a fund of good principle and useful knowledge as might be expected to lay the foundation for an honourable and virtuous life. Little Henry loved his parents with great tenderness, and was looking forward with much delight to the prospect of soon joining his father, who had engaged to become his future preceptor. Under maternal instruction he had already obtained a laudable ambition to progress as far as possible in such studies as would prove that his time had not been misemployed during the temporary separation from his excellent father; at least such is our impression; but we will leave our young friends to form their own judgment as they follow little Henry on his voyage across the Atlantic, and after his arrival on the continent of America, sanguinely hoping that their expectations of him may not be disappointed, nor the time devoted to the persual of this little volume considered as mispent.

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It was on the 25th of July, 1832, that our juvenile hero commenced his voyage from the

renowned London Docks: the bustle, the confusion, and the novelty of the scene, as he was hurried on board the Columbia, tended quickly to dispel the cloud of sorrow which on that morning shaded his usually cheerful brow: for although Henry had much happiness to anticipate in meeting his father, he was still not insensible to feelings of deep regret as he received the parting embrace of many valued and much-loved friends; but, above all, he felt that he was about to bid a lengthened adieu to an elder brother, for whom he justly cherished the tenderest regard, and from whom he was now for a season to be separated by the "wide expanse of ocean." But warm as were such feelings, this was not to his young mind the time for deep reflection: the tear was dashed from his eye, and his countenance bore but one expression of inquiry and amaze-He longed to ask his mother a thousand questions about the vessel and the people on board, but as he knew that she had at that moment much to occupy her mind, he judged it an improper time to trouble her, and therefore remained a silent spectator of passing events until the ship reached Gravesend, when the breeze freshening, Henry, with many of his fellow-passengers, found it expedient to retire to the cabin: the disagreeable qualms of sea-sickness were not, however, of very long duration, for by the time the vessel had anchored at Portsmouth, he pronounced himself to be convalescent, and was again to be seen on deck.

CHAPTER II.

Departure from Portsmouth.

"Slow moves our vessel o'er the wat'ry way,
No wind disturbs the ev'ning's placid calm,
No threat'ning billows dash around their spray;
We see no danger, and we fear no harm."

F. W. N. B.

The weather was beautifully fine, and the incessant bustle occasioned by the arrival and return of boats conveying visitors of all descriptions to and from the shore, afforded a variety of scene well calculated to divert the youthful thought from that gloomy foreboding and depression, which, in spite of our efforts, will invariably obtrude itself upon the mind of every reflecting individual who is about to bid adieu to their native land to brave the dangers of the "foamy deep," trusting to a plank only between themselves and eternity.

The scene of confusion and bustle on board the packet relieved all monotony, and afforded but little time or inclination for reflection: from the rising of the sun until the going down of the same, a complete fleet of boats of all sorts and sizes were to be seen sailing or plying to and from the identical Columbia, while the increasing arrival of cabin and steerage passengers excited the utmost astonishment in the mind of our little hero, who could not conceive where they were all to be stowed: there were about thirty-five in the cabin; and in the steerage, besides the sailors, upwards of a hundred individuals emigrating to America, many of them mechanics, and others agriculturists, who were quitting their native soil, hoping in the New World to improve their fortunes!

Henry was greatly delighted to see in the number of the cabin passengers a charming little boy about his own age, whose prepossessing manners led him to believe that he was likely to have an agreeable and suitable companion: this little fellow was the son of a mercantile gentleman, who, with his family, was returning from a British and continental tour to his establishment in New York. Mr. F. and his amiable wife formed a very pleasing addition to the society of the Columbia, and appeared to be educating their children (for they had also a daughter with them) with care and judgment.

Henry's mother had, therefore, much pleasure in seeing her little son associate with his chosen friend, though his companions were always selected by her with care and solicitude, as a matter she considered of the utmost importance towards forming his mind.

At Portsmouth the captain of the packet joined the vessel: he was an excellent, kind-hearted man, and soon became a reigning favourite, not only with the more important personages on board, but also with the young tribe, particularly with Henry, whose numerous questions he answered with great condescension, and spared no pains in explaining to him the names of the different ropes and their separate uses, the formation of the rigging, the mode of taking a solar observation, in the use of the quadrant; so that by the time Mrs. B. was able to take her seat upon deck, for she had suffered distressingly from the effects of sea-sickness, she found her little son had gained much nautical information, and felt himself of no small importance in being able to explain to his mamma many particulars in navigation of which she had hitherto been perfectly unacquainted: it was also a subject of gratification to her to find that his mind had been usefully and actively employed, for, in consequence of indisposition, she was obliged during

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the voyage to relinquish her usual attention to his studies.

Their passage, however, promised to be of short duration, for a favourable breeze had been wafting them for some days through the briny ocean at the rate of ten knots an hour.

While the chessmen, backgammon, draughts, Lord Byron, and Mrs. Trollope, were affording amusement, and subjects for discussion with the elder passengers, Henry and his friend found great delight in building and rigging cork and paper vessels, which they let down at the stern of the ship, and in watching the progress of their little miniature fleet sailing after the packet. When, however, the weather was too rough to admit of this amusement, Mrs. B. found ample employment in answering Henry's questions, and in listening to his remarks concerning the singularities and wonders of the sea, which had not escaped his observation.

"I have been thinking, mamma," said he one day, addressing his mother, when the gale was fresher than he had hitherto seen it, "that the sea is a grand, but a very awful element: see, now, how the waves swell mountains high, threatening every moment to ingulf the ship, or dash it to atoms!"

Mrs. B.—" It is, indeed, a grand element; but

while it fills us with awe, it ought to instil us with feelings of intense gratitude for the numerous blessings it so continually presents, and which are so far paramount to any mischief it does. If we consider the contents of the sea, a new world of wonders seems to rise before us;—the multitude and variety of beings and objects of which it is composed are prodigious!"

Henry.—" Are the animals of the sea as varied in their nature as those of the land?"

Mrs. B.—" I believe they are not considered to be so, but we must recollect that the ocean has been less examined than any other part of the globe; doubtless, therefore, many wonders yet remain undiscovered and unknown to us: the animals of the sea are acknowledged to surpass those of the land and air in size; and their life is infinitely longer: for instance, 'the elephant and ostrich are small when compared with the whale, which is frequently sixty or seventy feet in length, and is stated to live as long as the oak; consequently the life of no animal of the earth or air can be compared with it."

Henry.—" How I should like to see one of these huge fellows! The captain told me yesterday that there was a young whale near the ship, but I was not quick enough to see it; yet, mamma, there are many other wonderful productions with which we are unacquainted, as well as those undiscovered in the sea; for instance, rocks, mountains, valleys, caves, and a variety of animals which live at the bottom, and others near the surface, thousands of which it is impossible to describe, either their size, construction, or even use."

Mrs. B.—" But all of which, my dear boy, contribute to prove the infinite power and wisdom of the Creator, upon whose mercies we cannot reflect without feelings of grateful adoration!"

Henry.—"I think, mamma, there is no situation in which we ought to be more grateful for the Almighty's goodness than when at sea; we are exposed to so many dangers which we could hardly expect to escape without his special preservation: the captain has told me, that although of seldom occurrence, yet the whirlpool is one of those perils which occasionally prove fatal to shipping, by turning the vessel rapidly round with the current, and terminating the mischief by sinking or swallowing it up; but he did not explain to me the cause of the whirlpool."

Mrs. B.—"I have understood that they generally proceed from immense cavities in the sea, where contingent rocks and different currents

meet, but happily for voyagers are not of common occurrence; the waterspout is also a phenomenon perhaps of equal danger, but not often met with. We shall, I hope, have the good fortune to escape all such calamities."

"I hope so, too," said Henry, leaping from his seat, in obedience to a summons from his young friend, who called him to look at a numerous flock of porpoises that were sporting round the vessel; their attention was, however, soon arrested from this finny swinish tribe, by a call from the mast head, that a sloop was off the leebow of the ship. The news was welcomely received, for they were near the banks of Newfoundland, and anxiously wishing to fall in with a fishing smack to procure a banquet of fresh cod, there to be met with in abundance and great perfection: their wishes were soon realized. As they neared the sloop, the captain and some of the passengers boarded her, and for a few bottles of rum, received a fine stock of live cod and halibut, which were very acceptable, particularly to the steerage passengers, who had shared but lightly of the luxuries with which the more fortunate individuals in the cabin were well supplied.

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Henry, who had been for some time intently gazing at the shoals of fish which were still

floundering on the deck of the Columbia, again resumed his seat by his mother, saying, "I have been thinking, dear mamma, of what you told me about the wonders of the sea, and I feel convinced that nothing I have heard exceeds in curiosity the formation of the fish: that it should be able to live, move, and fulfil every animal function in that boisterous element, which would prove so fatal to us, were we to plunge into it for only a short period of time, appears to me very extraordinary."

Mrs. B.—" Yet it affords an additional proof of the supreme wisdom of our general Parent, who, to enable these creatures to live in the water, has constructed their bodies very differently from those land animals: their bones are so formed as to afford a flexibility to their bodies, which other animals have not; you observe, also, their eyes are placed deeper into their head, to guard them from injury; and the scales with which they are covered preserve their bodies from being injured by the weight of the water."

Henry.—" But there are some fish that are without scales."

Mrs. B.— Such are provided with another substitute: they are enveloped with a fat and oily substance, to preserve and guard them from such dangers as are incident to their nature.

The most wonderful part of their construction appears to me to be their fins, which are almost their only limbs, and yet are sufficient to perform all they require: the gills are their organs of respiration; but one of the most valuable organs to the fish in swimming is the bladder of air in the stomach, by means of which they diminish or increase the weight of their body, can raise themselves and float on the surface of the water, but by compressing the air, the body becomes heavier than the water, and consequently sinks down."

Henry.—" I am much obliged, dear mamma, for the explanation you have given me, and I am sure that I shall never see a fish without reflecting on its wonderful construction, and feeling grateful to that good Providence which has been pleased to bestow them for our use."

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Mrs. B.—"Continue to cultivate such feelings, my dear boy; they will produce you more true happiness than all the riches of the earth or sea could give.—Here comes steward, with a smoking dish of stewed halibut: go below, and enjoy your dinner."

CHAPTER III.

The Iceberg, and sight of Land.

A rew mornings after the discussion on fish, Henry was awoke at an early hour from a sound sleep by his little cheerful companion, with the words-"Come, Henry, hasten on deck, we are in sight of an iceberg, and the captain is kind enough to lend us his telescope that we may see it distinctly, for he says it would be endangering the ship to approach very near." Our little hero thanked his good-natured friend, and in a few moments was by his side on the deck, taking a telescopical view of an immense mountain of ice, supposed to be not more than four miles distant from the ship: it was a magnificent spectacle, and highly gratifying to the little boys, who could hardly conceive it possible that so large a solid body of ice could have moved from its original station, probably in a far distant river, to so great a distance on the Atlantic, where it was now sailing with as much independence and dignity as if it had been a ninety-gun ship, commanded by an admiral of his Britannic Majesty's navy."

"I have often read of an iceberg, mamma," said Henry, "and am now very glad that I have seen one, for it appears to me a wonderful phenomenon; yet I cannot reconcile to my mind how any river can carry down in its stream an iceberg of such immense weight and size; I am also puzzled to understand the principle upon which it is formed."

Mrs. B.—" I will endeavour to explain it to you, my dear, as well as I can; but in Canada, from whence, perhaps, that which you have just seen came, we shall probably become better acquainted with the iceberg than we are at pre-I will, however, give you an idea by what There arise, in different means it is formed. places, on the surface of a running stream, species of whirlpools, in which aqueous particles rentain stationary: this moment of undisturbed repose is sufficient for the action of the cold to congeal its particles: leaves, pieces of timber, and other things, are frequently to be seen floating down a river: the water that surrounds them forms the central part, round which other aqueous particles adhere: thus the ice extends, and soon spreads by the adjunction of other particles. This effect acting on several points at the

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same time produce a simultaneous formation of icebergs, which, as winter breaks up, are carried down by the current of the stream. I have understood that their form is generally circular; for this reason, that their jutting parts are continually broken off by the shocks to which they are exposed in their progressive course down the river. My description is, I fear, but imperfect, yet it will enable you to form some idea of the principle upon which the iceberg is constructed."

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Henry and his young friend, who had been listening with great attention to the brief explanation, now thanked Mrs. B., and ran off to take a farewell peep of the object that had so deeply excited their interest; for the captain had altered the course of the ship, and they would quickly lose sight of the iceberg for ever.

A few days subsequent to this event the welcome sound of "Land a-head!" was echoed from stem to stern of the good ship Columbia: all were quickly on deck to catch a glimpse of the promised land, which announced their approach to New York; for, although the voyage had been as pleasant as a voyage across the Atlantic is expected to be, yet, after thirty-three days of one unvaried scene of sky and wave, the landsman naturally feels an anxiety to tread

again on terra firma; but as pleasure is seldom without alloy, so it happened in this case, particularly as regarded little Henry, whose heart, ever sensibly alive to kindness, had imbibed great esteem for several of his Atlantic acquaintance, and could not think of their parting without feelings of deep regret.

A scene of confusion, to which the packet had been a perfect stranger since her leaving Ports. mouth, again resumed its empire; bustle was "Byron," "Bulwer," the order of the day. and "Mrs. Trollope," were unceremoniously huddled together, with caps, dresses, bonnets, backgammon boards, chessmen, &c. all crammed without mercy into their portmanteaus or trunks, to wait the inspection of the costom-house officers, who, as soon as they espied the packet, came on board in all due form to pay the accustomed visit. Their duty was performed pleasantly, and with more politeness than we have sometimes witnessed on our own side of the Atlantic; but as Mrs. Malaprop avows "comparisons are odoriferous," we will make none. The staff medical officer from the quarantine post also paid a visit to the packet, and announced to the passengers the welcome intelligence that the cholera, which in its progress had made awful ravages in America, had now entirely

subsided in New York, and as the ship had been very healthy during her voyage, the captain was allowed to land his passengers with all possible dispatch.

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CHAPTER IV.

The landing.—New York.—Its Bay, &c.

—— "And I like to see
Its bay so free,
Where the ships float far from danger."
F. W. N. B.

During these passing events, Henry had been enjoying an exquisite treat, in taking a full survey of the surrounding scenery; yet, in the midst of joy, he could not entirely dispel a cloud of sorrow, which, in spite of his efforts, would occasionally darken his usually cheerful countenance, as he shook by the hand, for the last time, the worthy Captain Delano and his young American friend: his mother observed a tear glide silently down his cheek, the outpouring of an affectionate and grateful heart.

New York bay certainly presents a very fascinating appearance, and on the morning of our hero's landing was adorned with all that nature

could add to enhance its beauty. A more brilliant day never shone from the heavens; nor can we imagine a more heart-stirring or enlivening scene than it presented on the close of our voyage:-- the magnificent bay studded with picturesque islands and batteries, while her city seemed to be enveloped in an entire forest of shipping of every description, whose varied colours pronounced them of every quarter of the world. The heights of Brooklyn and its pretty village, which form part of Long Island, have a very attractive appearance on one side; on the other, across the Hudson, is seen a beautiful view of the shores of New Jersey: the whole presenting a perfect panorama, and a more superb and imposing view than had ever before met the eye of our little voyager, whose ecstasy was beyond control: energetically he exclaimed upon landing,-" I did not expect to see in America so beautiful and large a city as New York!"

Mrs. B.—" Its general appearance is, indeed, open and inviting; but we must remember, my dear Henry, that we are in what is considered to be the best and most important street in the city, which is called the Broadway, noted equally for its length and elegant buildings."

Henry.-"I do not think, compared with our

London houses, that they can be called elegant, but they appear to be substantially built, and the red fronts, white pointing, and green window-blinds on the outside of the houses, afford a neat and attractive appearance.—But this, mamma, is No. 57, the boarding-house at which you were recommended to put up during your stay in New York."

Mrs. B. and her children were very politely received by Mrs. Hossack, the hostess of the boarding-house, to whom she was introduced by a lady of that city, and a fellow-passenger in the Columbia.

The prices in the principal lodging-houses in New York are from five to ten dollars per week, for each individual, including lodging and board, with the exception of wine and beer; for the former, the charge is two dollars per bottle: the tables are well supplied with almost every luxury the season will afford. But the extreme haste with which the Americans at the table d'hôte dispatch their meals, the very business-like manner in which they eat, and the silence maintained throughout the repast, tend to destroy that sociability which so generally predominates at an English dining-table, affording a zest to the enjoyment of the meal to which the Americans appear to be perfect strangers; for

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with them-I speak only of the public tables-the ceremony of the dining-room is dispatched with the same quickness, solemnity, and silence, las they would attend to any important transaction in the counting-house, or on the Stock Exchange, on which, probably, would depend the rise or fall of their establishment. This custom conveys to the mind of the stranger the impression that there is wanting in the American character that sociableness which tends so effectually to promote a friendly intercourse between travellers and the inhabitants of a country through which they may be passing; however, if this system of silence and dispatch be not quite so congenial to the tastes of Europeans, it is certainly more friendly to their constitutions than the idle habit of sitting at the table for hours after dinner, to the prejudice not only of their health and morals, but too frequently also to their fortunes. can with truth be said of the hospitality of the inhabitants of New York, and of the unostentatious kindness with which introductions are received. The style in which private families live is elegant and comfortable, and the domestic circles in which the author has had the pleasure of joining were truly unaffected, unprejudiced, and amiable: good feeling, combined with genuine politeness emanating from the heart, seemed to

influence their general conduct, while each individual appeared to inherit a laudable spirit of emulation to promote the comfort, interest, and happiness of all around them. Such were the indelible impressions engraven on our mind after a residence of some weeks in an amiable family in New York.

Our young readers are no doubt becoming a little impatient, preferring rather that we yield our own opinions to those of little Henry, in whose narrative we now proceed.

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On the succeeding morning our hero rose at early dawn, perfectly refreshed from the fatigues of the late voyage by a comfortable night's rest. and anxious to see as much as possible of New York, for he knew his mamma's intentions were to remain but a few days there. At seven o'clock they were all assembled at the public breakfasttable, which was quickly dispossessed of its chief attractions: the guests successively disappeared from their quiet meal; some to the countinghouse, or other mercantile engagements, the ladies to their several chambers, to seek employment either in reading or sewing, while Mrs. B and her children were soon ready to commence their morning walk. Information being their grand object, they had engaged an intelligen guide to conduct them to the principal publi

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buildings, and to see such objects as were considered most worthy of attention. Their first visit was to the Battery, which is situated at the southwest point of the city: it is prettily laid out, the walks well arranged, and is considered a fashionable and favourite promenade. In the extreme heat of the summer it is very delightful, being well shaded by lofty trees, and refreshed by the sea breeze: it also commands a charming view, not only of the harbour and its shipping, but also of Governor's, Bedlow's, and Ellis's Islands, which are military stations; the beautiful shores of New Jersey and Long Island, the village of Brooklyn, (which, by the by, is now a city,) interspersed with many pleasant country-seats and elegant cottages, have also a very pleasing and imposing effect from the Battery. Henry and his sister were much amused by witnessing the number and medley of persons embarking on board and disembarking from the steam ferryboat, which crossed every five minutes with passengers to and from Brooklyn. This beautiful spot is the chosen residence of many of the rich merchants of New York, who not only consider it more salubrious, but are glad, after the labours of the day, to escape from the bustle and noise of the city.

Henry inquired of his mamma who were the

first inhabitants of New York. Mrs. B. informed him that its earliest inhabitants were the Dutch, who, about the year 1615, founded it under the name of New Amsterdam, and that it was incorporated by the English in 1696. "Of what extent, mamma," said Henry, "is the island on which it stands?"

"I understand," said Mrs. B. "that it is fifteen miles long, and from one to three broad."

Henry's attention was now attracted by the guide pointing out the City Hall, which is situated in an enclosure called the Park. The apartments in this handsome structure for holding the different Courts of Law are fitted up in a rich and expensive style: the room appropriated for holding the Mayor's Court is furnished with elegance and neatness. Henry could not, however, suppress a smile as he whispered to his mamma, "Observe the spittoon before every What Mrs. Trollope states about the American gentlemen spitting must be true." His mother told him to suspend all observations that could possibly give offence: and the guide inquired if he would like to sit in the chair in which Washington was inaugurated President of the United States. This was an honour which the little man could not well refuse. Offering his arm to his sister, they placed them-

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elves in the exalted seat, which is raised under handsome canopy, and covered with rich purle velvet. Washington was inaugurated presilent of the United States on the 30th of April. 789, in the open gallery of the City Hall of New York, in view of many thousands of spectators. The Governor's apartments in the City Hall are very neatly but not superbly furnished. ontain some valuable busts and exceedingly good paintings, chiefly the portraits of their most minent statesmen and celebrated naval and nilitary commanders. General Washington holds a distinguished place in almost every chamer, and near him is also generally seen the porrait or bust of La Fayette. "This is a handome structure," said Henry, as he descended he steps leading from the City Hall, and looking p at its beautiful marble front: "it is quite nodern; I suppose it has not been long built."

The guide informed him that the foundationtone of the building was laid in 1803, and the vhole completed in 1812, at an expense of five undred thousand dollars. The party then proceded to visit Trinity Church, in the Broadway. This handsome structure is of stone in the Gothic tyle, and has a steeple 198 feet high: it contains chime of bells, the only set in the city, and had lso a fine organ. The cemetery surrounding the church is ancient, and is enclosed by an iron railing. Our guide said that no interment had taken place in this cemetery for many years, a law having passed in New York prohibiting sepulture within the populous parts of that city, but that it was ascertained by authentic records that more than one hundred and sixty thousand bodies have been there deposited, exclusive of the seven years' revolutionary war, when no records were preserved. The interior of the church is exceedingly neat. Near the altar is a handsome monument, erected by the corporation to the memory of General Hamilton, as a testimony of their respect for one whose patriotic integrity the Americans hold very sacred. He was born in the island of St. Croix in 1757, and came to New York in 1773: for many years he was the faithful aid-de-camp of General Washington, and always enjoyed his confidence and friendship: unfortunately, however, he was killed in a duel with Colonel Burr in 1804, universally lamented by the people of that country to which he had devoted his talent and services. the same spot is also a monument erected to the memory of Captain Lawrence, of the United States navy, who was distinguished by his bravery and skill: he fell while commanding the Chesapeak frigate in the last war, engaged in action

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with the British frigate Shannon. There are within this church several other monuments equally deserving of notice; but Henry's attention was particularly attracted in walking round the cemetery by an oblong pile of masonry, surmounted by a marble slab, on which are engraven the following words:—

" MY MOTHER.

"The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall rise."

This sacred pile was doubtless erected as a tribute of filial piety; but there are no characters or letters on the slab to afford the least trace by whom, or to whose memory, it was erected: it is, however, singularly affecting, and excited tears of sympathy from the affectionate-hearted Henry, and his no less amiable sister.

Having taken a cursory view of the most interesting objects in Trinity Church, they proceeded next to St. Paul's Chapel, which contains also some valuable memorials. Under the portico, which is supported by four fluted pillars of brown stone, is a monument erected by order of Congress to the memory of General Montgomery, who fell at the storming of Quebec in 1775. This distinguished officer was a native of Ireland.

At the commencement of the American revolution he was appointed Major-General in the army destined for the attack on Canada, where he met his death. His remains were removed to New York, and interred beneath the monument in 1820. Our guide informed Henry that the spire of St. Paul's chapel is 234 feet high. In the adjoining burial ground is a cenotaph to the memory of Thomas Addis Emmet, a late eminent counsellor, and brother to the Irish orator, Robert Emmet. This monument is embellished with the American eagle sheltering a harp unstrung, and a medallion likeness of Emmet, with clasped hands, having stars round one wrist, and shamrocks round the other: on one side is a Latin, and on the other an Irish inscription. As there are nearly a hundred churches in New York, and each one would present something to interest their attention, and delay their time, Mrs. B. proposed, as they had seen the two most important, that they should now only take a glance into the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Mott-Street, and then return to their boarding-house to dinner. On their way they passed Columbia College, chartered in 1750 under the appellation of King's College. contains a chapel, lecture-rooms, hall, library, museum, and an extensive philosophical and

astronomical apparatus, with which Henry was highly delighted, and very properly expressed his sense of obligation to a gentleman connected with the institution, who had taken great pains to give him such explanations as his several questions required.

They then visited the New York Society Library, which is stated to contain upwards of twenty thousand volumes, many of which are very rare and valuable. The Historical Society of this city have also a library of ten thousand volumes.

A little tired with his walk, but highly gratified with what he had seen, and grateful for the information he had gained, we shall now leave little Henry and his party to partake of a good dinner.

CHAPTER V.

A Pleasant Rencontre.—The Dinner.—Navy Yard.
—Theatre, &c.

Mrs. B. was much astonished, and equally pleased, to meet, on entering the dining-room, an American gentleman of the name of Pelham, to whom she had been introduced at the house of a friend, in England. This gentleman was a clergyman, and had travelled a great deal in Europe, particularly in England, where, having partaken of much hospitality, he had contracted many friendships, of which he valued none more sincerely than that of the amiable family where he had frequently met Mrs. B. and her husband, and he now rejoiced that an opportunity presented itself, in his own country, in which he could manifest his feelings, by showing attention to an English family: he stated that he was also on the wing to Canada, and would with Mrs. B.'s permission join their party, and accompany them to whatever they might wish further to see in New York.

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This proposition was, as may be imagined, very joyfully accepted, and in a short time little Henry and Mr. Pelham became as well pleased with each other as Mrs. B. was delighted in the idea, that she had not now to travel upwards of four hundred miles, with her children, through a foreign country, without protection, the prospect of which had for some days cast a cloud of depression over her spirits.

As three o'clock was the appointed dinnerhour in Mrs. Hossack's establishment, there was vet some time to spare before evening, which Mr. Pelham suggested should be devoted to visiting the Navy Yard, which is situated on Long Island, and near to Brooklyn: to this proposal all joyfully acceded; and as the ceremony of dining was as usual quickly dispatched, a coach was presently at the door to convey the happy party to the Ferry. "I remark," said Henry, addressing his new friend, "that your hackneycoaches in New York are infinitely neater and cleaner than those I have been accustomed to see in London; the horses are in better condition, and seem to be treated with greater humanity; the coachmen also have a more respectable appearance." "Your observation as regards our hackney-coaches," said Mr. Pelham, is perfectly just: they are certainly of a very superior class to those usually seen on the stands in London; the horses also are better accourred, and generally better conditioned; but I am afraid we cannot say much in favour of our coachmen: they are frequently great rogues, and will impose in their charges, if they possibly can, on strangers; it is therefore always necessary to make a bargain with them before you enter their vehicle."

The coachman now drew up his horses by the side of the Ferry, and in five minutes the party were landed on the Brooklyn side of the river, where they engaged another carriage to drive them to the Navy Yard, a distance of about a mile, through one of the prettiest villages that can be imagined. The commanding officer at the Navy Yard happened to be a friend of Mr. Pelham's, and received the party with great politeness: by his order, one of the people employed on the premises conducted Henry through the several work-shops, explaining to him the whole process of ship-building: he also saw two or three large vessels on the stocks: they then went on board the Franklin United States frigate. The quiet, order, and regularity, with which the several duties seemed to be performing throughout the different departments, quite astonished Henry, who appeared unwilling to quit a spot in which he was gaining so much useful information. Mr. Pelham whispered to him, however, that they were probably intruding on the time of the officer; and that he had taken a box at the Park Theatre for that evening; it was therefore necessary to hasten home, in order to see the opening of the play. This was, indeed, an unexpected pleasure, to which Mrs. B. felt some reluctance in yielding her consent: she however found it impossible to withstand the earnest entreaties of her children that she would allow them to go, if only for one hour, that they might be able to give their papa a description of what is considered the most fashionable theatre in New York. Miss Fanny Kemble and her father had recently arrived, and were that evening to make their first appearance at the Park: to witness their reception was also an additional inducement; and they were highly gratified in beholding the enthusiastic applause so bountifully bestowed on their national favourite per-Henry joined as loudly as his little hands would allow in the general burst of approbation manifested throughout the house, and could not restrain a tear of grateful feeling as he saw his country-people so warmly received.

Besides the Park, New York can boast of two other pretty little theatres; also an Italian Opera House, which has been recently built; but the Park Theatre at present carries the palm as the most fashionable and best attended: it is near the size of our Haymarket Theatre, but badly fitted up.

As they were returning to their boarding-house, Henry expressed his astonishment at the immense number of Hotels, which were distinguished by the numerous lights displayed in the various apartments.

"And what is most gratifying to the proprietors," said Mr. Pelham, "these numerous Hotels are generally all filled: you must remember that New York is a city with two hundred thousand population, carrying on an extensive traffic with the whole world. The number of strangers that annually visit the city from every quarter of the globe is immense. The hotel which you are now passing is the City Hotel and makes up no less a number than two hundred beds. The Mansion-House is also another excellent establishment, affording good accommodation, including board, for two dollars each person per day. There are several others in the city of equal note and respectability."

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America certainly deserves every encomium for the improvement and extraordinary advances a very few years have made in her country, which may now be considered one of the most flourishing in the world.

All further remark was here interrupted by their arrival at Mrs. Hossack's, and Henry shaking his friend very warmly by the hand wished him a good night, and retired to his chamber.

In accordance with an engagement between Mr. Pelham and our little hero, they both rose early on the following morning, in order to visit the principal fruit and vegetable markets, which are scarcely inferior to those of Covent Garden, being admirably supplied with fruits and vegetables of every description, and at an exceedingly cheap rate. Henry purchased some fine peaches of exquisite flavour, and larger than any he had ever seen in England, ten for sixpence; apples and other fruits equally fine and equally cheap. Pine-apples and all West India fruits were likewise much cheaper than in England. taking a survey of the markets, they proceeded to visit the different wharfs, which even at that early hour indicated that active spirit of commercial enterprise so peculiar to New York: the bustle and confusion attending the arrival and departure of the various steam-boats, independent of other shipping, brought multitudes of persons to the spot, and produced at once a scene

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of gaiety and interest. Their next step was on board one of the New York and Liverpool packets. Henry had sailed from England in a similar vessel, and therefore was not surprised at the good taste displayed in the arrangement of the cabins, which are fitted up with every comfort that can be expected on ship-board. To such of our readers who may anticipate a visit to America, it may not be uninteresting to state that these packets sail from New York to Liverpool, and vice versa, on the 1st, 8th, 16th, and 24th of every month. There are twenty ships in the Liverpool line; and the expense of a cabin passage is thirty guineas, including wine, The packets from London to New York, and, au contraire, sail on the 1st, 10th, 20th, and 24th of each month; and those to and from Havre on the 1st and 15th: the passage-fare to the latter place, each way, 140 dollars.

"You have now," said Mr. Pelham, addressing his young friend, "seen a great deal of New York; what do you think of the city and its inhabitants?"

The little fellow, seeming to reflect for a few moments, replied, "I think, sir, it is a very fine city. Its public institutions do credit to the judgment, talent, and taste of its inhabitants: their buildings are handsome, and their houses elegantly furnished; but the manners of the people differ from those I have been accustomed to, which is, perhaps, the reason I do not quite admire them."

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Mr. Pelham.—"I love the ingenuousness of your disposition, and am pleased to see you slow to condemn even that which you do not approve. You would doubtless think that person ill bred, who, as a stranger, would visit England, and unscrupulously depreciate the general manners of the people, judging solely by the indiscriminate individuals whom chance might throw in their way in a stage-coach, an hotel, or at a public exhibition."

Henry.—"I bow submissively to your remark, sir, and have no doubt but that there are as well-educated and refined people in America as in any part of the globe; but it is that independence of manner and indiscriminate familiarity which I have observed to exist between the lower and higher orders of society, of which I complain, and which I cannot imagine to be productive of good to either party; for there is a charm in politeness that engenders good will, and never fails to raise in our estimation the humblest individual; while that prying curiosity, and that total omission of respect and ceremony, in the conduct of American dependents towards their

superiors, creates a feeling of suspicion and disgust in the European mind; and it is to that familiarity, I think, that you may attribute the difficulty of procuring good servants in natives of the United States."

"There is much truth in your observations, my dear Henry," said Mr. Pelham; "we are certainly so far sufferers by our spirit of independence;—but here we are at Mrs. Hossack's door, and George the waiter is come to announce breakfast to be ready, which our walk has given us full appetite to enjoy." This social meal being quickly ended, it became a matter of consideration how they should dispose of the remainder of the day to the greatest advantage. propose," said Mr. Pelham, "that Henry accompany me to the Exchange, a handsome building of white marble, situated in Wall-Street." lower apartments are occupied for the Post-Office, and a corridor for the convenience of persons visiting the office. The portico of the building, to which you approach by a flight of marble steps, is supported by Ionic columns, twenty-seven feet high: in the centre is the Exchange, of an oval form, surmounted by a dome, from which light is reflected. From the Exchange are communications leading to a Commercial Reading-Room. Under the same

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building are also some Newspaper and other offices: from the attic story a flight of stairs leads to a Telegraphic-Room in the cupola, where signals are made and returned from the telegraph at the Narrows, giving the earliest intelligence of the arrival of ships. The expense of this building was about two hundred and thirty thousand dollars. It was commenced in the year 1824, and completed in 1827.

"We will now," said Mr. Pelham, "make a short visit to the New York Institution, situated near the City Hall." Its apartments are occupied by different societies, - the Literary and Philosophical, the Historical, the American Academy of Fine Arts, the Lyceum of Natural History, the Museum, and the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb. Having passed through all, and explained to Henry the particulars of the latter noble institution, they then proceeded to Scudder's Museum, where Henry found many interesting curiosities to amuse his mind, and would willingly have devoted the rest of the day to their inspection, but Mr. Pelham reminded him of their engagement to call for the ladies at one o'clock, and that his repeater warned him the hour had arrived. This hint was quite sufficient: Henry immediately quitted the Museum; for, however interestingly engaged, he never

suffered any personal gratification to interfere with his duty and respect towards his mother. "I regret," said Mr. Pelham to Mrs. B. "that you have fixed to-morrow for your departure, for it will deprive us of the opportunity of making a tour of Manhattan Island, on which New York is situated: its scenery is so diversified and beautiful that you could not fail to be pleased with it." "I am delighted with New York altogether," said Henry, "and I hope at a future day to enjoy the pleasure of paying it another and a longer visit."

CHAPTER VI.

Departure from New York, and sail up the Hudson River, &c.

WE had almost forgotten to mention in our narrative that Mr. Pelham had travelling with him a younger sister, an amiable girl about eighteen vears of age, whose delicate state of health rendered a change of climate advisable, which was the ostensible motive for his present journey to Canada: in this young lady Mrs. B. found an intelligent, agreeable companion, and one in whom she rejoiced to see her daughter take It was now arranged that the party pleasure. should proceed on the following morning by steam-boat on their route towards the British provinces; and, as the boat would sail at an early hour for Albany, Mrs. B. proposed that they should pass the evening at the boarding-house, where she had received great attention from Mrs. Hossack and her daughter, an accomplished and amiable young lady. Mr. Pelham begged,

however, to infringe a little on this resolution, stating that he wished before they quitted the city that his young friends might see Nibloe's Gardens, which are considered the Vauxhall of New York. As usual, they were on that evening thronged with visitors: Henry and his sister were highly delighted with the singing, fireworks, and illumination of variegated lamps, tastefully arranged throughout the gardens, producing a pleasing effect. The music was very good; at least so thought our little travellers, who, after remaining about an hour in this enchanting spot, and partaking of some ice-creams, returned to their chambers mutually regretting that it was to be their last night of repose in New York.

We must not forget to state that although Henry had been but so short a time at Mrs. Hossack's, that his amiable disposition and pleasing manners had rendered him a great favourite with several of the boarders: among the number was a very good-natured old gentleman, who had taken a warm interest in our little hero; so much so, that, on the eve of his departure, while shaking him by the hand, he said, "I am sorry to part with so intelligent and agreeable a companion, but you will be highly gratified with your sail up the Hudson. I have observed you

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are anxious to gain information; I therefore beg to present you with an abridged sketch of the discovery of that river, gleaned from the collection of the New York Historical Society, of which I am a member; and I hope you will deem the description worthy a place in your note-book, to which I see you so often resort." Henry expressed his gratitude to the gentleman, who opening a small morocco case, handed him the following memorandum neatly bound in blue silk. We present its contents to our young readers, presuming that, like Henry, they are anxious to acquire information:—

"John D. Verrazano, a Florentine, in the service of Francis L of France, had been entrusted with the command of four ships in cruizing against the Spaniards. These vessels being separated in a storm, the commander resolved with one of them to make a voyage for the discovery of new countries. This resolution was adopted in March 1554. His first arrival was on the American coasts of North Carolina and Georgia. Directing his course northward, he entered the harbour of the present city of New York. describes the islands Staten, Manhattan, and others, as prolific and pleasant, 'full of hie and broad trees, among which islands any navie may ride safe without fear of tempest or other danger.'

He remained in this harbour fifteen days, from which period nearly a century elapsed before any further discoveries were made on this part of the continent.

" It was reserved for Henry Hudson, the celebrated navigator who discovered Hudson's Bay, to make the first voyage up the river which now After having visited several bears his name. harbours, he entered the Strait, now called the Narrows, in 1609: a boat was manned, and by his command dispatched to explore what appeared to be a river. In this service the boat's crew were engaged in the Bay and adjacent waters during the day: on their return to the ship they were attacked by the natives in two canoes. A skirmish ensued, in which one of Hudson's men, named Colman, was killed by an arrow, which struck him in the heart, and two more were dangerously wounded.

"On the following day the body of Colman was interred on a part of the land not far from the ship, which from that circumstance received the name of Colman's Island, and which was probably the same now called Sandy Hook.

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"On the 12th of September, 1609, Hudson first entered the river of that name, and sailed up about two leagues. He was met by great numbers of the natives, who brought him pre-

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sents of Indian corn, tobacco, beans, and oysters, in abundance. They had pipes of yellow copper in which they smoked, and earthen vessels in which they dressed their food. From the 12th to the 22d of September, Hudson was employed in ascending the river: he describes it as abounding with salmon. In his passage he was visited by many of the natives, but always in an amicable manner. It is conjectured that he sailed up about as far as where now stands the town of Hudson, when deeming it not prudent to proceed further with his vessel, the boat was manned and sent up the river as far as the spot where the city of Albany now stands. During this excursion Hudson gave ardent spirits to some of the Indians, for the purpose of making experiments on their tempers: he says they all became merry, but only one completely intoxicated. tradition still exists that a scene of intemperance occurred when the first ship arrived, doubtless having reference to this event.

"Hudson began to descend the river on the 22d September, having frequent intercourse with the Indians in his way down, from whom he received offices of friendly feeling until he descended below the highlands, when they made a desperate attempt to plunder the ship, and shot some of the crew. On the 4th of October, one

month from the time he first landed at Sandy Hook, he sailed out of the river, and proceeded to sea, reaching England on the 7th November following. Hudson did not give his own name to the river he discovered, but called it the *Great River*, or the *Great River* of the *Mountains*. The appellation of its discoverer was given to it soon afterwards.

"Hudson, in a subsequent voyage for the East India Company, became a prey to the mutiny of his men in the same bay which bore his name: he was forcibly put into a boat, with his son, and seven of his crew, who were invalids, and in this manner inhumanly abandoned. They were never heard of more."

Henry had been much amused in reading this interesting description of the enterprising Hudson, whose untimely fate he deeply deplored, but said he should, after the perusal of the sketch, sail up the river with feelings of increased interest and delight.

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An early hour the following morning found Mrs. B. and her party embarking on board the North American steam-vessel, one of the regular line of boats which sail daily during the summer season from New York to Albany. They had chosen an early boat in order that they might not lose any part of the rich scenery between the

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two great cities, a distance of 144 miles, which by steam boat is performed in about twelve hours. The price of fare is three dollars each person: a separate charge of a quarter dollar for breakfast, and half a dollar for dinner, exclusive of wine. They stop at the principal villages on the river for the purpose of landing and receiving passengers. Henry was surprised to see at least five hundred persons on board, many of whom were English travellers or emigrants on their route towards a settlement in Canada; and others American families, quitting for the hot season the populous cities to seek a more salubrious air in the famed Saratoga, which is esteemed the Cheltenham of the United States.

Our little hero placed himself as near as possible to Mr. Pelham, from whom he hoped to gain what information he might require of the places through which they might pass, for he had heard that there were many interesting historical events connected with the passage up the Hudson River. Nor was he disappointed: his friend soon roused his attention from the bustle of the boat to the grand and varied scenery by which they were surrounded.

On the point at the mouth of the Hudson or North River is Powle's Hook, on which stands a small town in New Jersey, called Jersey city:

the village of Hoboken is seen about a mile up the river, beyond which the hills of Weehawken appear at a distance of about three miles. they advanced. Mr. Pelham observed to his little attentive companion, that that was the place where General Hamilton, whose monument he had seen in Trinity Church, fell in a duel with Colonel Burr. It is a retired spot on the margin of the river, with huge rocks on each side, so as to effectually exclude it from public view, except from the water, which is its only way of access, consequently it has been chosen as an appropriate place for settling affairs of honour, among the gentlemen of New York, and it is to be lamented that some valuable lives have here been rashly terminated, plunging into intense sorrow and affliction many amiable and respectable families.

The Hudson presents to the tourist a variety of natural scenery seldom to be met with in a journey of the same extent: the contrast is bold and striking; sometimes romantic, singular, and picturesque. On one side we behold extensive lawns, interspersed with the abodes of husbandry, and glowing in all the rich verdure of summer beauty; on the other we see summits crowned with forests, apparently impenetrable to the footsteps of cultivation. This, as we sail along, is quickly transferred to the declining

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view of villages or towns, conveying to the eye of the traveller the all-powerful charm of novelty.

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Henry's attention was next attracted by a remarkable range of precipices or rocks, which make their first appearance about ten miles from New York, and extend from thence to Tappan, a distance of nearly twenty miles: they are from twenty to five hundred and fifty feet in height, forming along the beach a wall of solid rock, diversified only by an occasional small cabin or fisherman's hut. The opposite side of the shore is varied by hill and dale, presenting many beautiful spots blooming with cultivation, interspersed with handsome houses and pretty cottages, and affording altogether a pleasing contrast with the rude cliffs on the other side. Mr. Pelham now pointed out the site of Fort Lee on the west side of the river: nearly opposite to which, on a high hill, stood Fort Washington, which during the revolution in 1776 was captured by the British and Hessians. It is stated that the latter suffered much by the riflemen, who were concealed in the surrounding bush and swamps, but ultimately succeeded with the other division in forcing the Americans into this fort, where they surrendered to the amount of seven thousand men.

Henry became desirous to know more of the historical events which took place at that event-

ful period, "For which," said Mr. Pelham, "I shall refer you to the history of North America: my object in giving you this abridged sketch is to enforce on your mind a deeper interest in the scenery through which we pass. At a future period, when you are reading history, you will remember the places more accurately, and refer to them with greater pleasure:—and now I call your attention to a village we are approaching, Tarry-town, the place where the unfortunate Major André was arrested on his route to the This place was neutral ground: British lines. the English and the Americans lay encamped above and below the tree under which his captors searched him. This tree, remarkable for its size, is stated to have been twenty-six feet round and one hundred and eleven feet high: in the year 1801 it was destroyed by lightning. further on the river widens, and forms what is called Tappan Bay. Here the boat stopped to take in wood, which afforded sufficient time for Henry to accompany Mr. Pelham to the spot of Major André's grave, marked by a solitary cypress; though, by order of the British government, with consent of the American, his remains were recently removed to England, to be interred within Westminster Abbey. Our little hero had never yet heard of the conspiracy which termiI

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nated so fatally to our countryman; he therefore begged his friend would give him the particulars of an event which so deeply excited his sympathy, and seemed to be marked with such general interest. To this request Mr. Pelham replied he would be happy to accede, but as they were approaching West Point, a spot blended with so many interesting incidents, he would suggest to Mrs. B. that they should remain there until the following day: he had ascertained that they could procure excellent accommodation in a most comfortable hotel. The request being seconded by all the party, it was granted without hesitation. "Then," said Mr. Pelham, "I engage to give my young friend in the evening such particulars as I am in possession of respecting the fate of poor André."

Near Tappan Bay is the Sing-sing Prison, which being situated only a few feet from the shore, our travellers had from the steam-boat a distinct view of the building, which is principally of hewn stone, worked and constructed by the prisoners. It contains eight hundred solitary cells. The prison discipline consists in cutting off all intercourse among the convicts: they are separately lodged; and though they work together, they are not allowed to converse even by signs, therefore can concert no ill designs or

contaminate each other. The wings of the building are constructed of marble, and contain a chapel large enough to accommodate nine hundred persons, workshops, hospital, kitchen, and other domestic offices. The whole is estimated to have cost two hundred thousand dol-Henry's attention was next attracted by the Highlands, or Fishkill Mountains; but when informed that they were associated with some of the most important events of the revolution, he viewed them with a mixture of admiration and interest. Their appearance is certainly singular and highly romantic: the river at this point has formed a passage through two ranges of mountains, which we may imagine have been separated by some convulsion of nature. Henry and his friends were overtaken by a violent thunder-storm: the grandeur and awe of the scene transcended any thing he had ever before witnessed. He had heard of a Transatlantic storm, but his imagination could never have portrayed a scene so magnificently grand: the thunder rolled with lengthened peals, vibrating solemnly through the range of mountains, (which are from twenty to five hundred and sixty feet in height,) descending with an echo that seemed to make the boat tremble on the bosom of the river, now unusually calm; while the vivid and

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incessant flashes of forked lightning illumined the dense clouds that were hovering over the vessel, threatening to engulph it in a deluge of darkness and rain. The scene was a succession of those grand bursts of the elements that vibrate through the soul, filling the mind with a mixture of awe and admiration. In silence Henry stood watching the progress of the storm, unconscious of the exclamations of fear expressed by many of his fellow-passengers. When its fury had abated, and the sun again resumed its influence, he said to Mr. Pelham, "I never saw so grand, so imposing a sight!" "You have, indeed," responded that gentleman, "witnessed a Transatlantic thunder-storm in all its glory; perhaps a more romantic spot, or one better adapted to display its sublimity and grandeur, could not have been chosen than among these majestic mountains, which extend on each side of the river to a distance of twenty miles, the whole presenting a coup d'æil that can scarcely be excelled in magnificence of natural scenery."

CHAPTER VII.

West Point.—Military Academy.—Major André, &c.

WEST POINT now presented itself, and having arrived at the landing-place, Mrs. B. and her party left the boat, giving direction that their luggage should be deposited at the Mansionhouse Hotel in Albany, where they intended to proceed on the following day. Having secured apartments at the hotel, they proceeded to visit the Military Academy for the education of young men destined for the army, and for supporting the military science of the country. It was established in 1802 by General Williams, and extends only to cadets. The number of pupils is confined to two hundred and fifty. The sons of such officers who fell in the revolution are allowed the first claim; and secondly, the orphans of those officers who fell in the last war.

Henry inquired how the establishment was supported, and was informed that it was main-

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tained at an annual expense to the United States of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. library consists of a valuable collection of books, chiefly on the various branches of military science, which have been obtained from Europe. course of study is completed in four years: it includes the French language, drawing, natural and experimental philosophy, chemistry and mineralogy, geography, history, ethics, mathematics, artillery and engineering. The cadets are instructed in all the practical minutiæ of military tactics, comprehending the lowest duties of the private soldier as well as the highest duties of the officer: they engamp for eight weeks in the summer, in which period they practise the art of pitching tents and other details of the camp, with various military evolutions. was highly delighted with the parade, in which the whole of the young battalion, with the exception of the guard, were turned out, and carried through the manual exercise by the officer commanding.

Near the parade-ground there is a monument of white marble, on which is simply inscribed "Kosciuosko," erected to the memory of that distinguished Polish general, who was born at Warsaw. In the American revolution he was the friend and aid-de-camp of Washing-

ton. He afterwards headed his countrymen in their resistance to Russian oppression; but his noble efforts were unavailing. He was wounded and taken prisoner by the Russians, who revered his character, and treated him with distinguished respect. The Emperor Paul gave him a valuable estate. He died in Switzerland in 1817.

"Years ago — for Poland's freedom Kosciusko fought and bled: Now, alas! for Poland's glory, Gallant Kosciusko's dead."

F. W. N. Bayley.

This brave man had chosen West Point for his place of residence while in America: perhaps he could not have found a more suitable retreat from the cares of the great world, or one better adapted as an asylum to a disappointed mind. The remains of a garden cultivated by his hand are still to be seen, though now in a state of neglect; the marks of former cultivation are however visible, in the tasteful arrangement of trees and regularity of the walks. With a silent and somewhat melancholy step Henry quitted a spot which associated itself so interestingly with the character of an officer, whom he had heard so loudly extolled and lamented by the friends not only of Poland, but of freedom in general.

Mr. Pelham next pointed out to Henry a house on the east side of the river which had formerly been the head-quarters of General Arnold, and other officers who were at different times invested with the command of this important part of the country. "It was there," continued that gentleman, "that Arnold made the proposal of surrendering West Point, and the forces under his command, to the British army. This event took place in 1780. The English at that period were in possession of the Hudson river, as far up as what are called the Highlands. To effect the design it was arranged that a council should be held, and Major André was sent in the night from the sloop of war Vulture, which was lying in Haverstraw Bay, to a spot which had been appointed for the conference. A person of the name of Smith was dispatched by Arnold on board the Vulture, under the false pretext of negociating an honourable treaty with Great Britain, but in fact solely to accompany Major André to the spot of rendezvous; the dawn of day, however, defeated their intentions, and rendered it impossible for the Major to pass in safety the military posts, consequently his only resource was to retire to Smith's house, and change his dress for a disguise which had been provided for him: General Arnold had also pro-

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vided him with a pass under the name of John Anderson. He remained concealed throughout the day, but on the following evening set out on his project, accompanied by Smith as a guide: they had parted company but a short time, when André was accosted by two men, who, stepping forward, seized the bridle of his horse, demanding at the same moment where he was bound? Supposing they were English, the Major did not immediately show his passport, but waving their question, inquired to where they belonged? They replied, "To below;" referring to the course of the river, which he misunderstood, and conceived that they were of the British party. " And so am I," said André, at the same time informing them that he was an English officer, proceeding on urgent business, and must not be detained.

"You then belong to our enemy," exclaimed the men, "and we arrest you." Paralized with astonishment, Major André now presented his passport, which, unhappily for him, only rendered his case the more suspicious. He then offered them his purse, his watch, his horse; in short, whatever they might demand, if they would suffer him to pass. They were, however, though poor, beyond bribery: searching him, they found in his boots, papers which too fatally confirmed their suspicions: inflexible to their purpose,

they conducted him as a prisoner to Colonel Jameson, a militia officer, commanding the district. The fate of poor André was soon terminated: he was tried by a board of officers of the American army, condemned, and executed as a spy, carrying with him the commiseration and sympathy of all parties. The natural amiableness of his character, his superior accomplishments as a gentleman, his valour and humanity as an officer, gained him universal esteem and confidence by his soldiers: he was enthusiastically loved and revered, though he had not attained his 29th year, when his life was so fatally terminated.

"It is recorded that in early life he had formed an attachment to a lady whom he addresses by the name of Delva, and to whom he devoted all the leisure afforded from the intervals of a mercantile profession, until tidings reached him that she had married a more successful rival. This drove him, disappointed and unhappy, to the bustling pursuits of a camp: he soon gained the confidence of his general, and was rapidly progressing in rank and reputation, when, in the zenith of his glory, buoyed with new hopes from the execution of a project the most beneficial to his party that could be devised, he was at once precipitated from the summit of prosperity to see

all the sanguine expectations of his ambition destroyed, and himself ruined!"

Mr. Pelham observed the tear of sympathy trickle down the cheek of his young auditor, who with minute attention had been listening to the affecting narrative. After the pause of a moment, in which Henry seemed to be struggling with suppressed emotion, he emphatically said, "And did his country use no efforts to save him?"

Mr. Pelham.—" Every possible exertion was made on the part of Sir Henry Clinton in his favour; but it was deemed important, for the sake of example, that the decision of the military board should be carried into execution."

When apprized of the sentence that had been passed on him, he made an appeal by letter to General Washington, intreating that he might be shot rather than die on a gibbet; and this request would undoubtedly have been granted, had the general's duty to his country permitted it. His warmest sympathies were excited, and had himself only been concerned, Major André would have been saved; but it was necessary to consult his officers upon the propriety of according the demand, which they thought proper to refuse, and therefore denied him the death of a soldier.

Henry.—" What became of Arnold? Was he an American?"

Mr. Pelham.—" He was a native of the state of Connecticut, and until this event, which sullied his honour, was considered to be a brave soldier, having distinguished himself nobly in the profession he had chosen. At Quebec, on Lake Champlain, and at Saratoga, he had gained the applause of his country; and in the year 1779 he bore an honourable testimonial of his attachment to his country in the wounds he had received in her defence. After the event which led to the melancholy fate of poor André, he escaped to New York, and died in London in 1801."

Henry, who had listened very attentively to the narrative, now warmly thanked his friend, and hastened to join his sister, who was busily employed in sketching some of the beautiful views by which West Point is so bountifully surrounded.

CHAPTER VIII.

Quitting West Point.—Fishkill Mountains.—
Poughkeepsie.—Hyde Park.—Catskill.—Pine
Orchard, &c.

On leaving West Point, the first object that attracted Henry's attention was the pretty town of Newburg, which stands on the declivity of a hill sloping beautifully to the shore. Half a mile south of this town is a large stone house, formerly the head-quarters of General Washington: from this place begins the stage-coach road, leading from the river to Ithaca. " And now," said Mr. Pelham, "observe, my dear Henry, the Fishkill Mountains make their appearance, the summit called North and South Beacons, which rise opposite Newburg, at about a distance of four miles, commanding a grand view over the surrounding country; from that point, land may be seen in seven different states, and many pretty villages embellished by the finest cultivation, as well as rivers, are included in the view. We

will now, however," continued that gentleman, " withdraw our attention for a few moments from the beauties of nature, that I may point out to you an object of commercial interest: near the river, and directly opposite to Newburg, stands the Matteawan Factory, which was commenced building in 1814, and now affords daily employment to upwards of three hundred persons; from a thousand to fifteen hundred yards of cotton, principally ginghams, are manufactured every day. I wish your mamma's arrangements would allow us to delay our journey for a few hours, in order to visit the manufactory: I think you would be gratified in seeing the works, and the extensive machine-shops connected with it." "If we were not so anxious to see our dear papa," replied Henry, "I would intercede with mamma to devote a few days to visiting some of those beautiful spots and villages with which the Hudson abounds; but as we approach nearer the goal of our happiness, our impatience becomes more imperative; and were it not for the enchanting scenery, combined with repeated objects of interest by which we are surrounded, I believe that the velocity of your steam-boats could not keep pace with our anxiety to reach our journey's end."

Mr. Pelham smiled his approbation to senti-

ments of filial affection so properly expressed; and shaking his little friend warmly by the hand, said, "I have not a sentence to offer in opposition to your argument; but we will make the best use of our time as we pass along. Now we are approaching Poughkeepsie." This village is about the same size as the little town of Newburg, beautifully situated, and a place of considerable trade: it is laid out in the form of a cross: a road leads down a steep hill from the village to the landing on the Hudson, where they were detained for about twenty minutes, taking in wood for the supply of the fire-engine. The next place at which they stopped on the east side of the river was Hyde Park, which name sounded so familiarly pleasant to Henry's ears, that he immediately crossed over to that side of the boat which would give him the best view of a place the name of which brought to his mind so many agreeable associations. said Mr. Pelham, " has been chosen, and I think with considerable judgment, as a favourite spot by the beau monde of the state of New York, many of whom have selected it as an eligible situation for their country seats. Dr. Hossock, a celebrated physician of New York, has a delightful residence and grounds here; Judge Pendleton, Mr. Wilkes, and several others, have also

very pretty places on or near the spot. A few miles further on are the noble mansions of J. R. Livingston and Mr. Ratcliff; at a short distance from which are those of the late Lord Livingston and of the late Chancellor Livingston. An incident in the life of that gentleman, when Secretary of State at Washington, is worthy of record, as affording an amiable illustration of his disposition. His labours, connected in the compilation of his code, were for many years unwearied and assiduous: they were far advanced, when his whole papers were destroyed by fire. This happened at ten o'clock at night; and at seven on the following morning, with unbroken spirit and undiminished perseverance, he began his task afresh!"

Henry.—" I remember having read that a similar incident occurred to Sir I. Newton; but those are not ordinary characters; few are endowed with such buoyancy of spirit, or such indefatigable perseverance; they afford, however, an example worthy of imitation." The boat now stopped to land some passengers at Catskill, a village in the immediate neighbourhood of the mountains of that name, which are seen for many miles along the Hudson, and here assume a sublimity and grandeur that can hardly be excelled: the highest elevation of this noble range

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of mountains is from eight to ten miles distant from the river; that called the *Round Top* is upwards of three thousand eight hundred feet high, and *High Peak* upwards of three thousand seven hundred feet in height. This village, which was formerly of little note, is now, by its attractive scenery, become a place of fashionable resort.

Henry.—" An excursion to the summit of these mountains must be very delightful, and might, I think, be very properly ranked among the principal objects in a tour through the States."

Mr. Pelham.—" Many tourists have agreed in the same opinion: it is an excursion that can be accomplished in one day, though two or three may be very profitably and agreeably passed in leisurely examining the wild and majestic scenery it commands. There is a large and commodious house of entertainment erected at the Pine Orchard, one of the peaks of the mountains, three thousand feet above the river, the ascent to which spot is performed without danger or fatigue in a private carriage, or in the public stage-coach which goes thence, and returns during the summer, twice a-day to the village of Catskill."

Henry.—" Pray give me a further description of the Pine Orchard: it must command an extensive and beautiful view."

Mr Pelham.—" A more delightful spot in point of interesting landscape can be hardly conceived: it is a small plain on the summit of the mountain, scattered with forest-trees of every diversity of foliage, affording an agreeable shelter from the rays of the summer-sun. The Hudson river is seen gracefully winding from afar through rock and valley: its margin adorned with towns and villages, interspersed with cultivated lands and vegetation; its broad smooth surface enlivened with vessels of various descriptions. A short distance from the hotel are the Keaterskill Falls, which take their name from the stream on which they are situated. This stream rises from two small lakes near the hotel, in a westerly course of, perhaps, near a mile and a half: the waters fall perpendicularly a hundred and seventy feet; and after resting a moment on a projection of the rock are seen to plunge with renovated force down a precipice of nearly ninety feet more, producing a grand and imposing effect. The road to this romantic spot is exceedingly rough and uneven, vet it does not deter the enthusiastic traveller from visiting a scene fraught with so much to excite admiration, and delight the mind."

The boat now stopped to land some and take in other passengers at a village called Athens, five miles above Catskill: this is a place of little note, probably from the circumstance of being situated directly opposite to Hudson, a town of considerable commercial importance, in addition to its classical name; it is, however, a pleasant spot, and can boast of some very pretty cottages and good private houses, and contains, probably, a thousand inhabitants. Hudson is a rich and populous town, abounding with mills and manufactories.

"We are now," said Mr. Pelham, "making rapid strides towards Albany, the capital of the state of New York; and although we have yet three or four more pretty villages to pass through before we quit the river, they are of very minor consideration in comparison to Albany, which, in point of wealth, population, and commerce, may be considered one of the first cities in the States."

The bell on board at this moment rang to announce to the passengers that they were near the close of their journey, and to warn them to look after their luggage—a very necessary precaution on board of a steam-boat; for it is no unfrequent occurrence for a person to find, at the end of his trip, that some good natured fellow has marched off with his portmanteau, unless he has had the good sense to look out for it himself, the proprietors of the steam-boats being free from all

responsibility for the personal luggage of passengers. A scene of bustle and confusion now ensued, some scrambling for their own, and others for what they could get; while Henry, looking at his watch, was quite astonished to find that they had completed the journey of 144 miles in twelve hours! He confessed that he should ever remember his delightful sail up the Hudson with pleasure, and expressed to Mr. Pelham feelings of gratitude for the information he had given him on so many interesting subjects during the passage.

CHAPTER IX.

Albany, the Seat of Government for the State of New York.—Its Environs. — Niskayuna.—The Shakers.—Sir William Johnson, &c.

ALBANY, as we have already stated, is the capital of the state of New York. The first appearance of this city, upon leaving the boat, does not convey to stranger any thing very prepossessing; still the taste displayed in the construction of its public buildings—the incessant din of commercial intercourse which assails the ear of the traveller the termination of the Grand Erie Canal at this place—its connexion with the rail-road to Schenectady-and many other attendant circumstances, such as the constant arrival and departure of steam and canal boats, stage coaches, &c. render Albany no less attractive to the tourist than an important and interesting city. town is divided into five wards, and contains. some good substantial buildings: the principal streets are extensive and wide, and contain many

excellent stores or shops, as well as some handsome private houses.

The Capitol, or State-House, is a large stone building situated on an elevation at the head of State-Street: it contains the Assembly and Senate Chambers, the Supreme Court, the County Court, &c. In the Senate Chamber are some fine portraits: one of the most valuable is that of Columbus, copied from an original in 1592. From the cupola at the top of this building, Mr. Pelham pointed out to Henry a view of Greenbush, situated on the opposite side of the river. This spot is interesting, as the first point of importance connected with the colonial wars against Canada: it was here that the troops supplied by the Eastern Colonies used to meet those of New York, and from hence proceeded, under commanders appointed by the British government, against their enemies in the North. Formerly, the inhabitants of Albany were nearly all Dutch, or of Dutch extraction: it is stated to have had then the character of being an unsociable place; but it is now inhabited by people from all parts of the world, and abounds with hospitality and kind feeling.

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Henry, who had been attentively listening to the above remarks, said, "I do not think that I should like so well to reside in Albany as in New York; as a merchant or tradesman, however, my opinion might widely differ."

Mr. Pelham.—" You have yet seen so little of the city, my dear boy, that you cannot judge of its advantages; but we will prevail on your mamma to rest here to-morrow, in order that you and your sister may visit the principal obiects in the town and its environs. We will now return to our hotel to take our tea;" which they did at the table d'hôte, laid out for about fifty persons in the usual American style. Plenty of beef-steaks, good in their kind, but badly dressed, broiled chickens, ham and eggs, dried fish, cakes of all sorts and sizes, sweetmeats, maple sugar, preserves and honey, with indifferent tea and bad coffee, formed the principal ingredients of this substantial meal. Henry and his party, however, enjoyed it very much, probably more than their companions, for they remained considerably longer at the table, not having yet attained the art of eating with the rapidity of the Americans. They afterwards returned to the sitting-room, in which were assembled several guests, some waiting for the steam-boats, others the morning-coaches, &c. Among the number were many well-dressed lady-like looking women, and some men of very common appearance. Heary's surprise was great, as he observed several of the

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latter lounging on chairs, with their feet resting on the seats of others, puffing away their cigars, perfectly unconcerned as to the annoyance which a room enveloped in a cloud of smoke must be to the ladies. A blush, very like indignation, mounted his cheek, from a consciousness that his mother and sister would suffer from so unpleasant an effluvia. Turning hastily round, he inquired of Mr. Pelham if it were customary in America for gentlemen to indulge in smoking, when in the presence of gentlewomen: "indeed," continued he, "from the appearance of these people, I think they ought not to intrude themselves into the society of ladies."

"You see in these men," said Mr. Pelham, "the consequence of equality: their rudeness disgusts and annoys me, yet I dare not say a word; you may be assured, however, that these offensive practices do not exist in good society in America any more than in any other part of the world."

Henry.—" It is that sort of vulgar independence which I imagine has given rise to so much censure on the manners of the Americans: they are habits, however, that time will, no doubt, correct."

The conversation was now interrupted by a summons to Henry from his mamma, warning him that it was time to retire: they were shown to their chamber by a good honest Irish girl, acting in the capacity of chamber-maid, who troubled them with none of those questions so common to American servants; but probably judging from their appearance that they were exotics, and just imported from the Old World, she showed them a great deal of civility, and seemed quite surprised when, on the following morning, Mrs. B. thanked her for her attentions, and handed her a quarter of a dollar. We afterwards learnt that it is not customary in the United States for travellers to pay either waiters, chamber-maids, or shoe-blacks—an improvement, we must confess, upon our home custom.

On the succeeding morning, after partaking of an excellent breakfast at the table d'hôte, for which they paid a quarter dollar each, the party, at the suggestion of the ladies, proceeded to visit the extensive Nursery and Horticultural Gardens, under the superintendence of Messrs. Buck and Wilson. These grounds are said to cover upwards of twelve acres of land, producing not only the choicest fruits of the country, but also the finer varieties of England, Germany, and France. Attached to this superb and enterprising establishment is an extensive green-house, containing a variety of the most rare and choice Asiatic plants, and other exotics. All who have visited

this beautiful spot must feel that the highest encomium is due to the enterprising proprietors. Henry and his sister were highly delighted, and would willingly have passed the whole morning in the gardens, had not Mr. Pelham informed them that he had engaged a carriage for the purpose of taking them for a drive to Niskayema, the Shakers' settlement, about eight miles from Albany. "A visit to these singular people," he continued, "will be well worth the delay of a few hours; though I do not by any means say that you will be as much pleased as you have been with Mr. Buck's botanic garden; on the contrary, I think you will be shocked and disgusted by some of their absurdities; yet there is much to admire in their industry, ingenuity, order, frugality, and temperance. The perfection to which they have brought these virtues may, perhaps, be traced with propriety to the founder of their sect, who, though one of the wildest fanatics, proved that she understood the intrinsic machine of the human kind, when she pronounced 'that temporal prosperity was the indication and would be the reward of spiritual fidelity.' The success of the society's agriculture is a beautiful illustration of the remark, that ' to temperance every day is bright, and every hour propitious to diligence.' These enthusiastic

people are the followers of Ann Lee, called by them Mother Ann. According to her own account she was a native of England, and although the wife of a poor blacksmith, the principal tenet of her creed is absolute celibacy, which is defended on various spiritual grounds, and fully explained in a work published by the society. She has been long numbered with the dead, but her followers regard her memory with pious veneration, and consider themselves the only people in possession of the true light: the marriage-contract is dissolved upon joining their community; all private property, whether of large or small amount, is thrown into one common stock, and they profess to banish the love of ambition, wealth, and luxury of all description, from their territories; they cultivate farms. which they divide among them; the men follow their different trades, and the women pursue the more domestic occupations, with knitting, weaving, spinning, &c.; the men and women take their meals separately, and neither of them will set down with what they call the 'World's people.' The females wear grey gowns, with white caps, as plainly made as possible; while the men are dressed in quaker-drab, perfectly plain, with broad-brimmed hats: they have a peculiar walk, especially the women, occasioned, it is said, from their mode of worship, from which they derive the name of Shakers: it is a strange, disagreeable mode of dancing, accompanied by a monotonous noise, perfectly disgusting to common sense." Mr. Pelham had hardly finished this description, when the coach stopped at Niskayema: the party alighted, and having walked for some time about the village, visiting the different workshops, and having purchased some very pretty baskets and other curiosities manufactured by the Shakers, they returned to their carriage; only astonished, that in a country like America, where there are high pretensions to reason and good sense, that such a set of bigots should be allowed to exist-not only to exist, but to increase daily in numbers, riches, and intolerance.

Upon their return into Albany, Mr. Pelham proposed that they should visit the mansion of General Van Reusselar, which is considered to be one of the most beautiful places in the United States: the munificence, liberality, and charitable disposition of its wealthy proprietor, has gained him the esteem and friendship of the country; his estate is of immense value, extending for many miles along the Hudson, and commanding an extensive tract of fine land; the Erie Canal also passes through his grounds, and

terminates within view of his house. Mr. Pelham informed Henry that General Van Reusselar had established, under his immediate patronage, a very valuable and flourishing college or seminary, about five miles distant from his residence, at which the students deliver lectures by turns on the different branches of study to which they are devoted, and which has proved itself to be a plan productive of great benefit and improvement to the scholars. During the summer season a considerable portion of time is by them appropriated to making personal observations on farming and botany: the expense of boarding in this establishment is one dollar and a half per week; no extra charge is made, although the pupils have the benefit of a fine library, &c.

Mrs. B. and her party returned to their hotel just as the bell was announcing that dinner was on table. Delighted as they had all been with their morning excursion, they now felt the full enjoyment of a good appetite, and were presently seated at the table d'hôte, which was well covered, and contained at least eighty or ninety persons: the fare consisted of roast and boiled meats, fish, fowl of different sorts, ham, eggs, tongue, with puddings, sweets, and pastry of all descriptions, intermixed with a variety of sauces;

for their dinner each individual paid half a dollar; wine an extra charge. Henry was highly amused in hearing every now and then an exclamation of "Colonel, I'll take wine with you." "With pleasure, General." He looked round, expecting of course to see some military looking men; but had not the appellation pronounced them to be such, he would certainly never have discovered their profession by their air, or even their manner; nor do I think, although in America, he would ever have guessed them to be soldiers.

After dinner, Henry accompanied Mr. Pelham to the Museum, where he passed an hour very satisfactorily, in examining the different curiosities, and looking at the paintings; but that which seemed most to attract his attention was the portrait of Sir William Johnson, whom Mr. Pelham informed him had held the rank of Major-General in the English army. "In our walk back to the hotel," continued that gentleman, " I will relate to you some particulars of his life, which will account for the distinguished honour his portrait has of holding a situation in the Albany Museum." Henry did not forget the engagement, and they had no sooner descended the steps from the Museum than he said, "Now. sir, pray tell me the history of Sir William Johnson,"

Mr. Pelham.—" Sir William Johnson was a native of Ireland, and nephew to Sir Peter Warren, who commanded a small ship of war, stationed at New York, where he married a lady, a native of that city. Soon after, he purchased large tracts of land in the country, and sent to Ireland for his nephew, Mr. Johnson, who, although very young, he placed in possession of a considerable portion of the land contiguous to the Mohawk country: this enterprising youth immediately commenced learning the Mohawk language. Being intrusted with talents, he discovered an indefatigable industry to improve them, by cultivating his unimproved wild lands into rich and well-planned farms; affording in himself an example of almost unparalleled industry, and by his instruction and liberality inducing many families to settle near him, many of whom he raised from circumstances mean and low to flourishing and happy. But independent of the attention he devoted to agricultural pursuits, he also traded largely as a merchant with his Indian neighbours, who went every spring from different parts of the States to Oswego, where the Indians from distant parts of the country assembled, and bartered beaver and other skins for European goods; the latter, the principal traders used to take from Mr. Johnson's store on credit.

as they passed by his door in their canoes up the Mohawk river, on their way to Oswego. custom was to pay for them, on their return the ensuing fall, with skins they gave in exchange; and his declining trade, considering the advantages of our Indian commerce, which he so greatly contributed to support, might have been deplored, had not the good of his country called him to act in a nobler sphere; for which his extensive qualifications throughout the whole series of his conduct evinces the wisdom of his designation, and gained his country's praise. The extent of his commerce with the Indians afforded him the most ample proof of the importance of their friendship with the English; and his mild, faithful, and friendly behaviour towards them, combined with his general character, gave him the greatest power and influence with them. house was advantageously situated on a spot about thirty miles distant from Albany, by land, but much farther by water, in a place where nature seemed to have afforded it a kind of defence; to which some addition was afterwards made by art, and therefore justly called Fort Johnson. For many years this excellent man was Colonel of Militia in the county of Albany, and was afterwards appointed one of his Majesty's Honourable Privy Council of the province of

New York, and subsequently raised to the rank of Major-General of the Forces. He greatly distinguished himself at the battle of Lake George, in 1755, on which occasion he was created a baronet, and died much regretted in 1774. Some branches of his family are still residing in Canada."

CHAPTER X.

Departure from Albany.—Troy.—Canal Tow-Boat, &c.

AFTER partaking of an excellent breakfast on the following morning, the party proceeded in a stage-coach to Troy, which, as the distance was only six miles, and the roads excellent, they reached in a short time: it is a neat, pretty town; the stones are very good, and the houses convey to the mind a conviction of their convenience and comfort. Troy is pleasantly situated on the river Hudson, with a range of fine hills in the back ground, the most prominent of which has received the classic appellation of Mount Ida, to correspond with that of the place. Mrs. B. and her party were set down at the City Hotel, and upon inquiry found that the roads from thence to Whitehall were in a lamentable condition: this intelligence they gained from an English gentleman, who was congratulating himself upon having survived their dan-

gers; for he had been travelling all night, as he stated, at the risk of breaking his neck, in order to be at New York in time for the first of the month packet to London. This gentleman recommended that, as they were a party, and had a great deal of luggage, instead of "shaping their course by land," they should take a passage by the Canal tow-boat, as a more commodious and safer way of proceeding, though not quite so rapid: for instead of reaching Whitehall by ten o'clock in the evening, they would sleep on board the boat, and arrive at that place at six on the following morning, just in time to embark on board the Lake Champlain Franklin steamboat, which would convey them to Canada,-a distance from Whitehall of 160 miles. was obliged to her countryman for the suggestion; but before deciding on their plans, the party proceeded on board the canal-boat, in order to see the accommodation, which they found superior to any thing they had anticipated. For the gratification of our young readers, who at a future day may be making the same tour, and perhaps under similar circumstances, we will give a description of the canal tow-boat from Troy to Whitehall:-"The boat is about seventy feet in length, the greatest part of which forms the cabin or dining-room: along each side are

lockers, which answer the purpose of seats by day, and contain the bed and bedding, which is spread upon them at night, and form sleepingbooths for the gentlemen-passengers. When the boat is pretty full, a sort of shelf is suspended over the lockers, which, with a mattress, forms a second bed, and is removed in the morning. The ladies' cabin is separated from the gentlemen's by a thick damask curtain, and is neatly furnished with carpeting, looking-glasses, &c.: the bedding is on the same plan, strictly neat and clean; and perhaps a greater regard to comfort is observed in their accommodation than to that of the gentlemen, who are supposed to be better able to endure a little temporary inconvenience than the softer sex. There appeared, however, one objection to this mode of travelling, which was the probability of being crammed up at night in a confined cabin, with perhaps a number of very disagreeable companions: in the day it would be of little importance, as the window would afford a free circulation of air; and the deck, small as it is, is free for the accommoda. tion of such passengers as choose to occupy it. After a few moments' consideration the obstacles diminished, and appeared like grains of sand in the wilderness, when compared with the disagreeableness of twelve hours' hard bumping in an

American stage along one of the worst roads that nature ever formed, and at each step threatening the annihilation of every bone in your skin, and the destruction of every nerve that is not cased in iron." The party therefore decidedupon what? upon choosing the lesser of the two evils, and engaged their passage in the North America Canal packet-boat, commanded by a Captain Hicks, a very civil and obliging person: the boat was to leave the bason in about two hours, which afforded them just time to return to their hotel, despatch their luggage to the boat, and take a glance at a few of the lions at Troy, with which they were so well pleased, that Mrs. B. booked it for another visit, when an opportunity might offer. The buildings of this city are chiefly of brick: it contains three banks, seven churches, a court house, jail, and market. The Episcopal Church is a fine specimen of Gothic architecture: it has a venerable appearance, and if enveloped in ivy would remind one of some of those ancient abbeys so often to be met with in the writings of our lamented bard-Sir Walter.

At the expense of the corporation of Troy, and greatly to their honour, a large building has been erected for a Female Seminary, which is said to be conducted with great judgment and care, affording annually a liberal education to about eighty pupils; many of whom would in all probability remain in ignorance, had they not the advantages of this institution. Mr. Pelham took the children to see the flour-mill on the south-side of the town, which the miller informed them would grind fifteen hundred bushels of wheat per day: they then visited the nail manufactory, where Henry asked numberless questions concerning the works, and the principal articles of their manufactory. "I guess, young gentleman," said the foreman, "we makes of red-hot iron every thing from a shingle nail to a ship's spike." Henry smiled at the blunt reply, but troubled him with no more questions.

Mr. Pelham now reminded the party that their leave of absence from the boat had expired, and that they must immediately hasten on board. Upon arriving there they were glad to find very few passengers in the lady's cabin—only two gay-looking American ladies, besides their own party; this Mrs. B. thought unexpected good fortune on their part, as she had now nothing to dread from a crowded close cabin. Upon learning that there was yet half an hour to spare before the boat would be ready to start, Mr. Pelham took Henry to see the Junction of the Champlain and Grand Erie Canals, which is considered

worthy the notice and admiration of travellers: the dam and bason form a noble and expensive work, and doubtless are productive of the greatest advantage to Troy and its commerce. But Henry confessed, that although perfectly sensible of its intrinsic value, and the undoubted benefit which these canals had proved to the country, yet he was so blind, or so stupid, that he could not discover any thing remarkable in their junction, of which he had heard so much. Four strong American horses were now tackled. to the line of the boat, and a stout lad mounted on the next to the leader: they commenced their passage, travelling at a very tolerable rate. the distance from Troy to Whitehall they had to pass through eighteen locks: this afforded great amusement to Henry and his sister, who, as they approached each lock, jumped on shore, for the pleasure of seeing the boat rise and fall, as the water was let in or out of the dam. Along the banks of the canal the scenery is generally monotonous and uninteresting, though in some parts romantic and pretty. One great advantage, however, is derived from a passage in the canal-boat -that of being exempt from the annoyance of dust, which in stage-travelling in this country is painfully disagreeable, the roads being very sandy. This route took them through some

pleasant looking villages; Waterford was the first of any importance, about fourteen miles from which is Still Water, near Berniss' Heights, pointed out to Henry as the battle-ground of General Burgoyne. The scenery here becomes more interesting to the tourist, as the canal runs near some of the principal American forts. Of the number they saw Fort Miller, Fort Hardy, Fort Ann, and Fort Edward. At the mention of the last named place, one of the American ladies on board, who had hitherto been a very silent companion, said, addressing Henry, "I guess, as you are a stranger in these parts, you never heard of the murder of Miss M'Crea." which happened near that spot. She then related the particulars, which were of a young lady, who, previous to the revolution, had been betrothed to an officer attached to the British army: the lady resided with her friends at Sandy Hill, a short distance only from Fort Edward, where her lover was stationed. Hostilities commenced, and the young officer, apprehensive for the safety of his mistress, despatched a party of Indians to convey her to the fort, where he had made arrangements for their immediate nuptials. Some little time elapsed before the young lady could obtain her parents' sanction to what appeared to them fraught with great danger, although

they had long since given their full approbation to the marriage, and now only wished her to wait the result of circumstances for its consummation: their intreaties, however, could not prevail on Miss M'Crea to decline for the present fulfilling the wishes of her intended husband; therefore, after the lapse of a day or two, she bid adieu to her friends, and, accompanied by a faithful servant, set out on her fatal journey. The young soldier, unconscious of the impediments that had prevented her immediate obedience to his wishes, became filled with apprehension lest she should have fallen into the hands of the enemy, who in their skirmishes were daily committing the most awful depredations: these fears were increased by the non-return of He determined immediately to the Indians. despatch a second party; and most woefully was he punished for his impatience! Miss M'Crea and her guides had reached nearly half way of their journey, when they were met by the second embassy; and now began a dispute between the Indians who should carry in the prize, and obtain the reward. During this unfortunate contest, an arrow from a party of American skirmishers struck the young lady, and she fell from her horse. Horror-stricken at the event, and perceiving that any further delay would be dangerous to themselves, the Chief of the first party of Indians drew his tomahawk, and striking the young lady to the heart, tore off the scalp from her head, and bore it in triumph to her impatient lover, as a trophy of his fidelity in the execution of his commission!

The young party shuddered at the recital of so heart-rending an event; and Henry inquired if the Indians completed the barbarous act, by leaving the unfortunate victim on the spot unburied.

The lady informed him that they had hastily placed her under the earth, beneath the spreading branches of a large tree, where she had fallen; but since that period her remains were disinterred, and consigned to her family-vault, in the church-yard of Sandy Hill.

The steward now announced dinner to be on table, which was certainly what may be termed a very homely meal—yet quite as good as might be expected, cooked on board so small a vessel—roast and boiled meat, vegetables, ham and eggs (as usual), sweet puddings, sauces, &c. with plenty of brandy, but no wine. Mrs. B. procured for herself and children, however, some excellent lemonade: for this meal the charge is three York shillings, or about one shilling and sixpence sterling each person. At seven o'clock the table was again spread for tea, with abundance

of cake, cold tongues, ham, dried meats, with various preserves and sweetmeats, for which one quarter dollar is paid each. During the passage there had been no inconsiderable increase to the number in the gentlemen's cabin: but much to the satisfaction of the ladies, they remained in number as when they started, and found their little cabin very comfortable: they slept well until about five in the morning, when they were aroused by the stewardess, with a communication that they had arrived at White-Mrs. B. paid for the passage of herself and children two dollars each; by the coach it would have been three and a half dollars: but by the latter conveyance the party would have arrived at Whitehall the preceding evening: their beds would then have been an additional expense; so that by the easy and safe mode of canal-boat travelling, the saving was considerable to their pockets. The recital of such minute particulars may be very uninteresting to many of our readers; but to such as are anticipating a trip to Canada, we hope they will prove not only interesting, but useful, as they are recapitulated with a strict adherence to facts.

CHAPTER XI.

Whitehall.—Lake Champlain.—The Water-Witch Steam-boat.—Arrival at Burlington.—Departure, &c.

It was on a Sunday morning that the party arrived at Whitehall; and as the Lake Champlain steam-boats do not ply on that day, they were necessarily detained until the following, which was particularly annoying, as Whitehall happens to be any thing but a pleasant place; for this, however, they were in some degree compensated, by being in a comfortable hotel called the Phenix; the weather was also in their favour; so that after partaking of a very good breakfast at the table d'hôte, Henry felt quite refreshed, and ready to accompany Mr. Pelham in a walk: for he soon understood, that although the town appeared dull and uninteresting to a stranger, yet its environs commanded some beautiful scenery; and it being the junction of the Northern Canal with Lake Champlain, there are generally

to be seen a variety of small vessels, and frequently immense rafts of floating timber; besides, it is also the direct road from New York to Canada, consequently during the summer season immense traffic is constantly passing. the summit of a rock over the harbour was formerly a battery, every vestige of which now appears to have gone to decay: the heights at this place were then occupied by General Burgoyne's right wing, while he was preparing to march towards Saratoga. The town is small, and its appearance would indicate that it contains but few respectable inhabitants; it has, however, a bank in high repute; and a traveller is surprised to see the number of persons assembled at the daily table d'hôte at the Phenix. Here it is, we believe, the fashion for all the gentlemen of the place to take their meals: whether they be bachelors or not we cannot presume to pronounce, but if not, the ladies can have but little trouble in superintending the cooking department of their domestic duties, and certainly escape a great deal of care and fatigue, while their husbands are well supplied with excellent fare at the table d'hôte. The host appears to be a very sedate, worthy, and civil person, fully deserving of public encouragement: he politely offered Mrs. B. and her party seats in his pew, **36**-

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if they were disposed to go to chapel; the favour, however, was declined. On the following morning they engaged their passage for the Lake Champlain, on board a small steam-boat called the Water Witch; the vessel was quite new, but not quite complete: it was her first voyage, which, for the accommodation of passengers. was made rather prematurely, in consequence of some trifling accident having detained for that trip the more important regular steam-boat on the Champlain Lake. The Water Witch carries a high pressure engine, which being held in not very high estimation for its safety, our party decided upon not venturing further in her than to Burlington, a distance of seventy-five miles from Whitehall, and there wait until the following day should bring them a more agreeable conveyance.

Lake Champlain is a beautiful sheet of water, about 145 miles long, and from five to nine miles broad: those who remember that it was the theatre of many memorable events during the war, must look on its scenery with feelings of intense interest. Its natural beauties also are many, and command the highest admiration; there are several very pretty towns and villages that adorn the shores of the lake, between which are scattered farm-houses, cottages, and highly-cultivated lands, affording a beautiful contrast with the

distant mountains. Henry became exceedingly interested in the description given him by Mr. Pelham of the different places through which they passed; as they approached Teconderaga, that gentleman pointed out the battlements of the Fort which he said first bore the flag of independence in the States,—a circumstance that should of itself render the view interesting to the traveller.

"Particularly to the Americans," said Henry, with an arch smile: "however, I should like very much to pay a visit to the Fortress, which I suppose has been the scene of many battles."

"At a future period, should an opportunity offer of visiting this part of the country," said Mr. Pelham, "you will find much to admire, particularly on Lake George, which in point of natural and romantic scenery is perhaps one of the most beautiful spots in the world: it is the favourite route from Canada to Saratoga, whence people, like bees, swarm in the summer, for the benefit of drinking the waters, which are considered to be very salubrious. Lake George, which is an object of general attraction to all travellers in this part of the world, is thirty-four miles long, and its extreme breadth not more than four; its depth is sixty fathoms: the water is remarkable for its purity and clearness. The

Lake never rises more than two feet: it is a delightful spot for the angler, and produces remarkable fine trout, black and rock bass, and perch; the sportsman may also find plenty of amusement in the neighbouring forests, which abound with deer. The intermixture of cultivation with the wild scenes of nature exhibited on this spot is extremely beautiful; the undulating surface of the well-tilled farm, contrasted with the deep shade of the native forest, and the weather-beaten cliffs, where vegetation can find no support, all contribute to render the scene one of perfect enchantment, and make one wish to fix there "a habitation and a home."

Mr. Pelham observed to Mrs B. the wonderful improvement which the establishment of the steam-boats and the opening of the Northern Canal had produced on Lake Champlain: the towns and villages a few years ago were thinly populated, and miserably supplied with merchandize, and such necessaries of life as their own industry did not produce; now they are found in abundance, and cheap: many of them have increased their size to double since 1822, and numerous villages have sprung up into activity and industry from almost nothing: new roads are making, and canals forming into the interior, affording employment to many thou-

sands of emigrants; numerous saw-mills have been erected on the tributary streams, for cutting up the supplies of timber in the forests; in short, improvement in this country is making wonderful and rapid strides. Before the opening of the canal which communicates with the Hudson River and Lake Champlain, very few vessels were here to be seen, but now they are in abundance, affording cheap and easy transport, combined with the greatest convenience to the numerous towns and villages which adorn the borders of the Lake. In 1776 the British had a fleet on Lake Champlain, commanded by Captain Pringle.

Henry's attention was now summoned by the captain of the boat, who desired him to observe a little island, called Sloop Island, which is considered a curiosity: it contains several trees, which at a distance have the appearance of masts. It is reported that, during the war, on a misty day, it was mistaken for a sloop, and fired upon by a vessel, from which circumstance it has since been called Sloop Island.

At Hertford, a very pretty village a few miles further northward, the Lake widens considerably, and presents a novel and beautiful view of the grand and magnificent range of the Alleghanie mountains, which are for some miles dis-

tinctly seen. On the eastern side of the Lake the green mountains are also visible over the wild uncultivated shores, and form a striking contrast with the neat white buildings that adorn the nearer villages. Much as Henry had been enchanted with the scenery on the Hudson, he was almost equally delighted with that of Lake Champlain, though he could not but confess that the accommodations of the "Water Witch" were greatly inferior to those of the "North America" on the Hudson, which might very justly be compared to an extensive floating hotel.

The captain, who we believe was also proprietor of the Water Witch, was a very civil obliging person, evincing the utmost anxiety to show every possible attention to his passengers, and expressed great concern that, "as his cooking apparatus was not yet complete, he could give the ladies but an indifferent dinner; but promised them a better, when he next had the honour of their company." If the dinner were not of the very best quality, or served in the finest style, Henry thought they could not complain of the society, for there were no less than two American field-officers on board. Our party discovered their rank, by the captain's unremitting polite attentions to these distinguished guests: the repetition went ding-dong in their

ears-" Colonel, shall I help you to some mutton?" or "Major, I quess you have the brandy near you," and so forth: in good truth, both colonel and major did ample justice to the captain's hospitality. It was about six in the evening when the Water Witch reached Burlington, the largest and most important town on Lake Champlain, and very delightfully situated. Before bidding adieu to the worthy captain, and wishing success to the Water Witch, Mrs. B. inquired of the former which was considered to be the best hotel; it being her intention to remain there until the following day, and then proceed by a larger boat. An hotel kept by Cady and Doolittle was strongly recommended, and thither they repaired, in a carriage kept by the proprietors of that establishment, for the accommodation of travellers arriving by the steam-They were conducted to a comfortable private apartment, fitted up more in the English style than any thing they had seen since leaving England: they soon after joined the table d'hôte for their tea, and for the first time on their route sat down with only three or four in number, beside their own party, though there was sufficient on the table to satisfy the hungry appetites of at least thirty persons. As Henry had made but an indifferent dinner on board the boat, he

now determined to follow the example of the American officers, and did ample justice to a well-broiled chicken, finishing his repast with a variety of excellent cakes: it was here that he first tasted the Maple sugar, which is very generally used among the country-people in the States, and also in Canada. A piece of the Maple-tree was also produced, and the mode of extracting the juice fully explained to the satisfaction of the young party, particularly Henry, who made a minute of all the particulars.

They were supplied with excellent beds; and on the following morning, at seven o'clock, were summoned by the loud peal of a bell to the public breakfast-table, where they found assembled at least from eighty to one hundred persons. A good-natured Irish waiter discovered that the party were new arrivals, and probably from the Old Country, for he very attentively reserved chairs for them at the head of the table; but, unfortunately for Mrs. B.'s appetite, which had not yet quite recovered its proper tone since being at sea, by her side sat one of the dirtiest old men she ever saw: he might probably have used his razors ten days since, but his appearance was perfectly disgusting; his breath one fume of garlic and tobacco: the juice of the latter he continually squirted through his teeth

over her shoulder, not only threatening to deface her dress, but also deprived her of her breakfast; for she sat in an agony of apprehension, least she should receive on her garments what he was so liberally but so offensively diffusing around him. Henry saw his mother's annoyance, and longed to make a remark to the offending party, but he had been warned never to express publicly an opinion that could wound the pride or feelings of another; but as they retired from the room, he whispered to his mamma, " Here is another instance of the blessings of equality, for which I think you have paid a due sacrifice." "And the poor man," said Mr. Pelham, "is perfectly unconscious of having given offence, and perhaps would be very sorry if he supposed that he had done so; but, as Henry observes, the error lies in our system of equality; and to such individuals as that old man we are much indebted for the severe remarks which some travellers have made on American manners: they lash us indiscriminately for the errors of a few, whom chance may throw in their way at the table a d'hôte, or in a public conveyance."

The waiter now informed them that the carriage which Mr. Pelham had previously ordered was in attendance, in order to drive them round the environs of the town, the wind being high,

and the dust of the sandy soil of Burlington too annoying to allow them to walk with pleasure: they were all quickly seated, and Mr. Pelham ordered the coachman to drive them to the spot commanding the best view of the Town and Lake. They ascended a hill of about a quarter of a mile in length, which presented a delightful prospect, embracing in the foreground the Lake (which at Burlington extends considerably in width), the town, and some beautiful gardens in a state of perfect cultivation, the property of some of the wealthy inhabitants; the houses are exceedingly good, and built much in the English style. Near the summit of the hill is a fine mansion, the residence of Mrs. Allen, whose husband was late Charge-d'Affaires to Chili. The land-travelling from Burlington to Montreal is very good, passing through the town of Swanton and Missisconi Bay, a place of considerable attraction, principally on account of its surrounding scenery. During the summer season, however, a sail down the Lake is so very delightful, and the steam-boats offer such powerful inducement to travellers, on account of their cheapness and comfort, that very few think of travelling by any other conveyance.

After enjoying a very pleasant drive for some

few miles round the country, our party returned to the hotel in time to partake of a good dinner at the table d'hôte, after which Mr. Pelham took Henry for a walk round the town: they visited the library, the court-house, and some of the . principal stores. As they were walking leisurely across a sort of common on one side of the town, they were accosted by a young man respectably dressed, who inquired if they would purchase of him some honey: being answered in the negative, he told them that he had a considerable quantity of excellent quality to dispose of, and that he would let them have it very cheap, being desirous to raise a few dollars upon a very urgent occasion. Mr. Pelham inquired if he were a single man; he said he was, but that a few dollars at that moment would be of the utmost importance to him. The next question was, "Are you out of employment?" "Oh, no," he replied, "I have constant work, for which I am paid fourteen dollars per month, with board, lodging, and washing." "Then how is it possible that you can be in want of money?" sternly demanded Mr. Pelham. "Because I have not half a dollar in the world," replied the man: "my employer keeps a store, and my wages are always paid in dry goods, such as clothes, &c.,

but I never receive sixpence of my wages in cash; I am now going to get married, therefore a little ready money would be very desirable."

Mr. Pelham smiled at the idea of a man marrying without sixpence in his pocket, and felt half inclined to remonstrate with him upon what appeared so extremely unwise; but feeling that his efforts to conviction would be futile, he merely desired the man to take a jar of honey to the hotel, which he promised to purchase at the market price.

As they walked on, Henry inquired if the mode of payment stipulated by the young man was a general custom in America?

Mr. Pelham.—" In the United States it is the common mode of payment to mechanics, whose wages generally run from ten to twenty dollars per month, perhaps five of which they receive in cash, and the remainder in store-goods: the same plan is held good in Canada, where the wages, I believe, are not quite so high. You must have observed during our route from New York an immense number of Irish labourers: these poor creatures are generally employed in working on the roads and canals; they are paid from twelve to fifteen shillings per week, chiefly in goods, and are supplied with a miserable lodging, with an allowance of wretched whiskey,

which is manufactured in the country. It is by means of this slow but hateful poison that for a time they are able to stand the heat of the summer, although hundreds of them die in the seasoning: it is quite heart-rending at some part of the year to witness their sufferings: as winter commences, navigation ceases, and their work with it: for months they are laid up unemployed, and thousands are then in a state of the most miserable destitution; and their ill fortune is not diminished by the dislike which the Americans generally have imbibed against the low Irish. This feeling, I am sorry to say, exists throughout the Union."

Henry.—" Do you think that our countrymen generally improve their condition, by emigrating to this country?"

Mr. Pelham.—" That is a question upon which I find some difficulty to decide: many prosper, and others have had but too much reason to regret having ever left their native shore; I am afraid, however, that in the United States more emigrants have suffered from disappointment than have had reason to rejoice in the change. Canada, particularly the Upper Province, holds out, I think, stronger inducements for emigration from England than the States. The characteristic manners and customs of the people are more.

congenial: they feel themselves more at home under the same government. The climate is particularly good, the soil prolific, and I believe that where industry, perseverance, and sobriety, are united, success has seldom failed to reward labour; in short, it is the poor man's country; for there he can live, if he can live at all. The greatest bane to their happiness is the love of ardent spirits, which in Canada are exceedingly cheap, and therefore offer a strong temptation to such as are addicted to the ruinous vice of drunkenness: but a man of sober and industrious habits will seldom fail to find in Canada a comfortable and respectable subsistence: there, land is cheap, and every facility is offered to emigrants by means of the agents, who are gentlemen of the highest respectability, and never fail to give the most salutary advice to such as are about to settle in their colonies. Emigration has within the last two years increased to a wonderful degree. Many parts of Canada, which a few years since were dense woods, apparently impenetrable, now present the most prolific and highly-cultivated lands: townships and villages have sprung up almost like mushrooms from the earth; canals are formed, mills erected; in fact, improvement of every kind in Canada is progressing wonderfully. Nor does emigration consist solely of the

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farmer, the peasant, and the mechanic: some hundreds of opulent British families are now comfortably domiciled in Canada, by whom, however, the Upper Province is generally held in the highest estimation. Perhaps, on account of its prolific soil and delightful scenery, it is deserving the preference."

All further comment on this interesting subject was for the present suspended, by a loud summons from a bell, the usual mode of announcing the arrival of the steam-boat: they hastened to their hotel, and having discharged their account, bade adieu to Messrs. Cady and Doolittle. The coach which had brought them from the Water Witch now conveyed them to the Franklin, the most commodious, quiet, and delightful steam-boat they had yet been in.

CHAPTER XII.

Lake Champlain continued.—Plattsburgh.—Rouse's
Point.—Steam-boat Franklin.—Isle Aux Noix.
—Lower Canada.

AGAIN the party embarked on the noble Lake, boasting innumerable islands of every varying form and outline that fancy can frame. About eighteen miles north of Burlington they passed Plattsburgh, a place connected with some important and interesting events, having in the year 1814 been the scene of a land and naval battle. The town or village does not bear any distinguishing marks of opulence, though there is considerable trade and some wealth in the place: it is on the banks of a small river called the Savanne, and a line of forts are here erected for its defence.

Night, in her sable form, was now approaching, but the moon, which was nearly at the full, rose with great splendour. Henry thought he had never witnessed any thing so splendidly sublime,

and intreated that his mamma would allow him and his sister to remain, beyond their usual hour of retiring, on deck, which being covered with an awning, Mrs. B. considered there would be no danger from the dews, and therefore yielded to the request. The wind was lulled: all nature seemed reposing; the sound of the machinery, and the bubbling of the water, occasioned by the rapidity of the vessel's wheel, were the only innovations to perfect stillness. Almost all the passengers had retired to repose, except a few who like our party were tempted by the grandeur of the scene to remain on deck: its sublimity appeared to impose a sacred silence, for scarce a breath was heard; all seemed to be involved in one overwhelming feeling of admiration. The moon, unusually bright, afforded an imposing view of the distant Alleghanie mountains, and reflecting its light upon the quiet villages, woods, and cultivated lands that successively adorn the shores of the Lake as you glide along its smooth surface, formed on the whole one of the most beautiful landscapes that the mind can imagine. Wrapped in silent contemplation, Henry remained seated by his mamma and sister, until the "iron-tongue of time told twelve upon the drowsy ear of night;" at which hour the boat stopped to land passengers at

Rouse's Point, the last village within the boundary of the States on Lake Champlain. Here are still to be seen the dilapitated remains of an old fort, and which has formerly been a castle, built of hewn stone. The country about this place is very level and uninteresting, and so it continues for some miles into Lower Canada: the banks on the River Richlieu, which we now enter, are low, and the cottages occasionally scattered along its shores are frequently overflown by the rising of the river; so that for some months in the year the inhabitants can neither enter nor leave their miserable abodes without a boat or canoe. These dwellings are usually occupied by poor Canadians, who procure a miserable subsistence by fishing, or shooting wild fowl, snipe, and pigeons, which are here found in abundance. The river produces the black bass-in our opinion the best fish obtained in this part of Canada: the rock-bass, perch, sunfish, and eels also, are plentiful and very fine. The poor creatures who exist in these marshy situations are much afflicted with ague and fever; their appearance is squalid and unhealthy: themselves and their log-huts certainly bespeak the most abject poverty, yet they seem contented in their filth and wretchedness.

"We are now, my dear Henry," said Mr. Pel-

ham, "making rapid progress toward the Isle Aux Noix, the place of your immediate destination: come with me to the upper deck, and you will soon catch sight of the island, which appears to great advantage from this part of the river." Our little hero cheerfully obeyed the summons; but before quitting the Franklin, we must in justice beg to recommend a passage in her to such of our friends who may travel by way of Lake Champlain from Whitehall to Canada. The boat itself is fitted up in a very superior manner: its comfort, neatness, and good order, command universal admiration. It is conducted quite in a man-of-war style, yet the captain is a person of pleasing, mild, and affable manners; his influence with his men is admirable; a look from him is sufficient command: the mandate of the Sultan of Delhi could not be more promptly obeyed: in fact, the attention and general politeness of Captain Sherman towards his passengers is quite proverbial. The fare by this excellent boat from Whitehall to St. John's, a distance of more than 140 miles, is, as a cabin passenger, five dollars, rather more than one guinea sterling: this expense includes an excellent dinner and supper, with the exception of wine; the attendance is also exceedingly good. There is on board, for the amusement of passengers, a

library, consisting of the latest British and American works. The lady's cabin is on deck, fitted up with great good taste, combining with comfort elegance and neatness: the stewardess is in constant attendance upon the ladies, from whom she deserves warm encomium for her general intention.

It was about six o'clock in the morning when Mrs. B. and her party bade adieu to the Franklin steam-boat, and landed on the wharf at Isle Aux Noix,—with what delight we will leave our readers to imagine: for there they were to meet the form husband and father, after an absence of some months. The children were in rapture as they again felt the warm pressure of parental affection; nor was that parent less alive to the intensity of joy, as he met the tender embrace of his affectionate offspring, and pressed them to that heart which had felt the most acute anxiety. for them during the passage. The sensations of the mother's mind we will not attempt to describe: they were, however, mingled with feelings of the highest gratitude towards the great God, who had preserved them not only in safety through the dangers of a sea-voyage, but also through the perils of contagion; for the cholera was still striding with malignancy in many parts through which they had passed; and in all their

gratitude and bliss there was yet one much-loved object still wanting to complete their happiness. At the early part of our narrative we stated that Mrs. B. had left her eldest son in England: it was her first separation from him, and the pangs of parting were still fresh in her memory: and not at this distant period even can she reflect on them without experiencing that mental agony known only on such occasions by a mo-She had missed his endearing attentions to which she had been accustomed through the voyage; but now that they were assembled round the cheerful hearth, the absence of one so truly dear to all, and who had formerly contributed so much to charm and enliven their little circle, was felt with the deepest regret, and mixed a portion of sorrow into their cup of joy.

We must in good truth congratulate our friend Henry upon his safe arrival at the Isle Aux Noix, where his father was stationed, and where in all probability our little hero will for some time remain, and have opportunity to afford us some description of the post, which, being military, cannot be totally void of interest to many of our young readers, particularly to those who are destined to visit Canada by way of the States; for here they will for the first time, after crossing the Atlantic, see the British flag waving,—a

circumstance that seldom fails to give joy to an English heart. This little island, which is about three parts of a mile long, and a quarter of a mile broad, has been chosen with judgment as a frontier post: although the ground is not of much elevation, it is higher than any in the neighbourhood, and so situated as partly to occupy the Channel, and entirely to command a view of it; the fortifications are exceedingly good. In the time of war it was a post of considerable importance, and is now occupied by a strong military detachment, with a commandant and one or two subalterns, a fort adjutant, a commissariat officer, a medical officer, an ordnance storekeeper, a barrack master, &c. The barracks, built of stone, are exceedingly large and commodious, and admirably situated within Fort Lennox: they were built under the governorship of the Duke of Richmond, and are said to have cost government fifty thousand pounds. The entrance is very noble, protected on each side by a drawbridge, and surrounded by a deep moat, which is a grand receptacle for the bullfrog, whose appalling note-loud, deep, and hoarse, issuing from ten thousand throats in ceaseless continuity of croak,-renders the place a dismal annoyance to the inhabitants of the Fort, until custom reconciles them to the horrid

sound. The powder magazines, military stores, and commissariat office, are within the Fort, the gates of which are guarded by a sentry.

There is also on the island an excellent navvyard, containing handsome navy-barracks, hospital, and officers' quarters, &c. This establishment, until June, 1834, has been under the command of a Lieutenant of the Royal Navy: it is now, however, broken up, and at present the buildings are unoccupied. There is a neat church on the island, in which the service is performed once on the Sabbath by the Rev. Mr. Baldwin, Chaplain to the Forces. The inhabitants of the Isle Aux Noix are all employed by government, and principally natives of Great Opposite to this delightful little spot, Britain. and about half a mile distance across the water, is a pleasant little village called St. Valentine's, inhabited principally by Canadians, who speak a sort of Patois French; in appearance very poor, and seemingly destitute of all regard to cleanliness or comfort: they reside in miserable looking hovels, most of them built of logs, and contain two or three rooms. The Canadian peasants, in dress, manner, and air, resemble foreigners, and seem not to have changed their fashion since the days of Adam: the men wear the Canadian jacket, cap, sash, and moccasins. The women are

dark, and when young very pretty, but soon look squalid and unhealthy, which may perhaps be partly attributed to the effect of the stoves which heat their apartments in winter, and partly to ardent spirits, which are so cheap as to be within the grasp of every individual in the country. The men are addicted to drinking, and appear to be no great lovers of labour, for you seldom see any thing like a neatly-cultivated garden near their residence. That pleasing little emblem of English industry, which speaks volumes in praise of our own peasantry, cannot breathe a sentence in favour of the poor Canadians. Like the Dutch, they not only build their ovens on the outside of their houses, but frequently over a pig-sty.

It is a rare occurrence in Lower Canada to procure a native female servant of any value: they are generally untidy, and extremely indolent; most of them Catholics, and bigotted to the utmost; they will forfeit their situation, however lucrative, rather than resign a constant attendance at chapel. Few Canadian females are therefore employed as servants: every body is looking out for either English or Irish; and the immense emigration, particularly of the late seasons, affords a tolerable supply.

CHAPTER XIII.

Henry's Pursuits.—The Emigrant.—St. John's.— La Prairie, &c.

Our young readers will doubtless be somewhat anxious to know what were Henry's pursuits after his arrival at Isle Aux Noix. We must inform them that even here he found " employment to be the true source of happiness:" his mornings were devoted to such studies as form the education of a gentleman, nor were his hours of relaxation less beneficially employed. culture became with him a favourite pursuit, and he left no means untried to make himself perfectly acquainted with the merits and demerits of the soil. He soon cultivated a very pretty and large garden, quite in the English style; and as he came out well supplied with seeds, his labours were amply rewarded with an abundant crop of vegetables, every description of which flourishes exceedingly well in Canada, although the Lower Province is not considered to be so

generally prolific as the Upper. Henry's early potatoes, first peas, French beans, &c. gained him great credit, and really set a very useful example to many of his neighbours. Land is here sold cheap; and those who can purchase a few acres, understanding how to till it, and are determined to rise early, and work late, will seldom fail to do well in Canada; but it is a fruitless speculation for any agriculturist or mechanic to emigrate to this country, in expectation of improving their condition in life, unless they be industriously disposed. Too many vainly flatter themselves, when they quit their own country, that in the New World they will find dollars as plentiful as snow; but a few short months in America will convince them that such expectations are illusory. We remember an English baker, who with a wife and two or three children came out from Aylesbury, and settled in Lower Canada: they brought with them but a few pounds in cash, probably very little more than was sufficient to pay their passage; for we were assured by the man that he left England with the full persuasion that in America they would find money and provisions so plentiful, that very little exertion would be necessary to procure even more than they would require. They were, however, lamentably disappointed;

for the winter after their arrival we saw them in dire distress. The man had made an attempt to commence in his business, but neglecting to put his "shoulder properly to the wheel," he soon failed; sold his horse, his cart, and then his cow, to procure means of subsistence. For several months during the severe season himself and family existed on public charity; at length the winter broke up, and the man procured employment as a farmer's servant; but we have ample reason to suppose that the poor baker was greatly wanting in that ingredient so essential in Canada -industry, for he remained in his new situation but a short time, when he made his exit into the States, doubtless thinking that there he would be able to live without labour. But alas! we fear further disappointment still awaits him, as it inevitably will all those in that station in life who leave England for a new country, unprepared to meet with privations which can only be alleviated by the "sweat of the brow." persons are also deceived when hearing of the rate of wages in the United States: it is therefore of importance that they be informed that five shillings in Canada is equal to eight shillings in New York; the par of exchange with England for the dollar is four shillings and sixpence sterling; but the present rate, and which has not

varied for a considerable time, is about four shillings and twopence sterling. The currency in the Canadas is at the rate of five shillings the dollar, which is called the Halifax currency, and is recognized by law throughout the colonies. The American shilling in almost every State varies in value: the shilling in New York is in Canada only in value sevenpence-halfpenny. It is therefore of importance that all travellers should make themselves acquainted with the currency of the country through which they pass, or they are liable to great impositions, which even in the New World they will not always escape.

Our young readers will, we trust, pardon this wide digression from the history of Henry, whom we have for some time left cultivating his garden, acquiring a knowledge of agriculture, and scientifically improving his mind. We will now follow him on a little excursion to Montreal, accompanied by his parents and sister. Again they embarked in their favourite steam-boat, the Franklin, which would convey them as far on their route as St. John's, a somewhat pleasant village twelve miles from Isle Aux Noix, but on the direct road to Montreal from New York. Here the Lake Champlain steam-boats stop at the head of the rapids, and at the end of navi-

gation: it is situated on the River Richelieu. Although a place of no particular attraction to strangers, those who delight in military reminiscences may feel some pleasure in visiting the fort and barracks; for this in the time of war was a post of considerable importance. explored them with delight; his father at the same time recounting to him many interesting military achievements which had formerly distinguished the place. They also visited the French and English churches; and from a wooden bridge. of about half a mile in length across the Richelieu, they had a fine view of the rapids, and of the canal which is now forming from St. John's to Chambly, and will doubtless prove an infinite advantage to the commerce of the place. The principal hotel is kept by Mr. Mott, where stages are always in readiness to convey passengers on their route: it is an exceedingly good house, remarkable for its neatness and comfort: mine host is an American, a very civil and obliging man. The table is well supplied, quite in the United States style: for dinner at the table d'hôte the charge is half a dollar; for breakfast and tea, a quarter dollar each. The roads from St. John's to La Prairie, a distance of eighteen miles, are notoriously bad; a rail-road, however, is in agitation; and for the sake of the good

people in Lower Canada, as well as for our fellow-travellers, we very cordially wish it every success. We certainly do not desire ourselves to undergo a second jumbling over its rugged ways, but will cheerfully contribute our warmest support towards the completion of the contemplated improvement, which would render St. John's one of the most delightful and convenient towns in Lower Canada. From this place to La Prairie the country at present offers but little inducement to settlers. There are a few straggling cottages and an occasional village to be met with, but the appearance of the inhabitants, like that of the soil, bespeaks much poverty. Henry observed that some of the most kumble and dirty-looking houses were dignified by a rate pole raised in front. Upon inquiry he learnt from his father that they were designed as marks of distinction, to denote the residence of officers of militia. It is no uncommon occurrence in Canada to see the wife of a captain in the militia bring a basket of eggs to your door to sell, apparently quite unconscious of the dignity of her husband's rank.

After about three hours' complete shaking in one of Mr. Mott's stages, Henry and his party arrived at La Prairie, a large dirty-looking village, from which steam-boats cross several times a-day to Montreal, a distance of nine miles. This place is perfectly Canadian; the inhabitants speak very little English; the streets are narrow, and can boast of little attraction. The principal objects of interest are the nunnery and the church. The Nuns possess a large tract of land, nearly in the centre of the village, surrounded by a high wall: their time is chiefly devoted to the care of the sick and indigent, and to the education of girls. Mrs. B. had just time to give her children a peep into this establishment, which favour was granted upon application, and then embarked with her family on board the steam-boat for Montreal, where we shall leave them to repose quietly for the night, and commence the morning with a new chapter.

CHAPTER XIV.

Montreal.—Rascoe's Hotel.—Review.—Climate.— Conclusion.

Although a little fatigued with his rough journey from St. John's to La Prairie, Henry still enjoyed his trip across the River St. Lawrence. Montreal is the second town of importance upon this beautiful river: it is situated on an island thirty miles in length and ten in breadth, and derives its name from a very high mountain, called by the French, Mountreal, or Royal Moun-This populous and great commercial city is 170 miles from Quebec. The exterior of the houses have a heavy and inelegant appearance: their roofs are covered with tin plates, in lieu of slates or shingles, and many of them have sheetiron shutters and doors, as a protection in cases of fire, which are of frequent occurrence in this city; but if the exterior be sombre, the interior of the houses is furnished with great elegance and comfort, and the inhabitants are renowned

for hospitality and kindness of heart. Many of their most eminent merchants are from England, Ireland, or Scotland; but the French retain their native manners and customs, as well as language. There are in this city several handsome churches. The New English Cathedral is probably the largest in North America. The Roman Catholic church is likewise a fine building: it has a magnificent painted glass window and five altars, all richly decorated.

Henry with his mamma and sister visited the four convents, a favour which they obtained through the interest of a friend; from thence they went to the harracks, where they had the pleasure of seeing his Excellency Lord Aylmer review the troops; this to our little hero was a great treat, for he had seldom seen so grand a military display. The barracks are situated near the river, and will contain upwards of 300 men. The parade is a handsome piece of ground, and forms a fashionable promenade. Montreal has a well-supplied market; provisions are cheap, but house-rent very dear. The best accommodations that can be desired are in this city obtained in the boarding-houses and hotels, and we think at a moderate rate. Mrs. B. and her family were staying at Rascoe's hotel: they joined the public table, which was well supplied:

with the exception of wine, the charge for lodging, with four meals per day, is one dollar and a half each person, or about six shillings and eightpence sterling. One of the principal attractions in the environs of Montreal is the Island of St. Helen's, or Giant's Island, which has recently been purchased at an enormous price by the British Government as a military depôt. This beautiful spot should be visited by strangers, as well as the Mountain of Montreal, where the luxury of extensive and grand scenery may be fully enjoyed.

The climate of Canada is undoubtedly very severe, and the heat and cold go to great extremes: the thermometer frequently rises in summer to 98°, and in winter the mercury often freezes. The winter season begins at the end of October, and continues till April, during which period the ground is seldom free from snow. In January, February, and March, the frost is very intense. At this season the largest rivers are frozen over, and navigation suspended. Although the air is so extremely cold, it is so serene and clear, and the inhabitants so well defended against it, that it is neither unhealthy nor unpleasant. The extremes of heat and cold are startling, yet the very sudden transitions which in other climates

are considered so injurious to the constitution, are unknown here.

In Canada the winter is the season of amusement: navigation no sooner closes, and the clear frosty weather begins, than all anxiety about business is suspended, and every one is devoted to conviviality and pleasure. Sleighing is a favourite and healthy amusement: it is a novel, and to strangers an extraordinary sight, to witness some hundreds of sleighs crossing the ice on the River St. Lawrence. These winter vehicles resemble the body of a chaise placed upon two iron runners, similar in shape to the irons of a pair of skates: they are generally formed to contain two persons, besides the driver, and are drawn by one or two horses; the latter are placed in tandem fashion, as the tracks on the ice will frequently not admit of their going two abreast: they will with ease travel at the rate of eighty miles a day. The smoothness and facility with which they glide along is delightful, and so little noise do they make, that it is necessary to have small bells attached to the harness to prevent accidents, by coming suddenly in contact with each other, which, without this timely notice, would frequently happen, particularly when travelling by night. To guard against the cold the

traveller is enveloped in buffalo robes; the cap or bonnet, usually made of fur, cover the ears and the greater part of the face, besides which, fur gloves and muffs are indispensable.

The Canadians also contrive in the very coldest weather to keep their habitations perfectly warm and comfortable. In large houses a stove is always placed in the entrance hall, and one on each floor up stairs, from whence flues pass in different directions through the apartments, keeping up a continual glow of heat throughout the Many have likewise open fire-places in their sitting-rooms: this is more as affording a cheerful appearance to the room than from necessity, for by the stoves the house may be heated to any degree; they have also, as an additional preventive against cold, recourse to double doors, and double windows about six inches apart. As soon as the winter has passed, the rapid progress of vegetation is astonishing: in a few weeks the fields are clad in the richest verdure, and the trees decked in the gayest foliage: the various productions of the garden make their appearance in quick succession, and the grain sown in May yields a rich harvest by the end of July. Spring has scarcely shown itself, when it is summer. That part of the year, when the seasons are so happily blended together, is delightful: Nature then puts on her richest dress, and in no part of the world is there a greater display of beauty and variety of foliage than in North America: the different tints of the forests are superb: at the same time the heat is not found to be inconveniently oppressive until the beginning of August; the month of September is the most agreeable period of the year for travelling in Canada.

Notwithstanding the winter be long, and the climate severely cold, yet the soil is in general both fertile and good, producing barley, wheat, rye, and almost every other description of grain, and nearly every variety of European vegetable. and the common kind of fruits—as apples, currants, raspberries, &c. As a remarkable instance of the richness of the soil, the sugar-maple is found in almost every part of the country; this is a tree that will never flourish in a poor soil, We have seen a maple-tree, of the diameter of twenty-two inches, yield sufficient sap for making six pounds of sugar each year, and we are informed that it is no uncommon occurrence to find trees yielding annually nearly the same quantity for upwards of twenty years. The sap of this useful tree also makes good vinegar, and a pleasant beverage similar to table-beer; if distilled, it produces a very fine spirit; the sugar

is brought to market by the country-people just in the same way as any other of their produce. Emigration has been productive of wonderful improvement in the agriculture of this country: formerly the farmers were considered but slovenly husbandmen; however, the good example set them by the English and Scotch farmers. who have cinigrated to this country, has excited them to emulation; consequently they have become more wealthy, industrious, and independent, and their lands have yearly proved more productive. The French Canadians are fond of residing near each other, and as long as a parental farm will admit of division, a share of it is given to the sons when they are grown up, and it is only when the family is very large that they think of purchasing fresh lots for cultivation. The principal settlements in Lower Canada lie contiguous to the River St. Lawrence, but the dangerous navigation of that river renders it advisable that emigrants from England to this country, who have the means within their power. should come out by way of New York: it is the safest and decidedly the most comfortable mode of reaching these colonies.

This very abridged account of Lower Canada will, we hope, be found acceptable to our young readers, and not totally destitute of interest:

should they ever visit that beautiful and prolific country, they will be able to judge of its correct-It is our intention at no distant period to ness. follow our little friend Henry through his travels to Quebec, the capital of Lower Canada; visit with him the Falls of Montmorency. the Indian village Lorette, and proceed to Niagara, the Burning Springs, the village of Chippewa, and Toronto, the capital of the Upper Province. where we shall take some pains to ascertain as correct an account of the country as we can, and give to our young friends as many details as the limits of our future pages will allow. The facility and comfort, as well as cheap rate of travelling by means of steam-boats throughout the Canadas. as well as the United States, offer a powerful inducement to Europeans to visit North America -a country that presents every charm and fascination to those who are admirers of nature, for there she reigns in undisturbed glory: mountains, forests, rocks, lakes, rivers, cataracts, all in perfection, are here to be seen. A visit to the Niagara alone would by many be thought a sufficient recompense for a voyage across the Atlantic; yet there are other inducements in our opinion equally attractive. The scenery in many parts is magnificently grand, particularly in the Upper Province. The winters there are very

severe, but the snow seldom remains longer than three months on the ground: its soil produces luxuriant crops of Indian corn, some of the stems of which grow as high as from six to eight feet; between each row they frequently plant melons, squashes, and gourds. Peaches in this part of the country, too, arrive to great perfection in the open fields: it is no unusual occurrence in parts of the Upper Province to see the farmers feeding their pigs with peaches. In Lower Canada the summer is too short to permit them to ripen sufficiently, so that they are never brought to any perfection.

In closing our brief pages, we sanguinely hope our young readers will have followed Henry across the Atlantic, and through part of the United States into Canada, with mingled feelings of interest and pleasure; and that the time allotted to the perusal of this little volume will not be considered as lost. The details recorded may be depended upon as facts, conscientiously written without national or personal prejudice: the author has been influenced solely by an ardent desire to convey to the young mind useful information in the most pleasing and easy manner; and she flatters herself that, particularly such as may anticipate a visit to North America, will ultimately find her efforts have not been fruitless.

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She would also hope that those who are contented to remain on their own side of the Atlantic may float down the pages of her unpretending little volume, under the conviction that what they read has not been stamped by prejudice, or adorned with false representations; and she intreats the public and the reviewers will receive her humble efforts with indulgence, always remembering that she does not presume to rank herself among the literati of the day.

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