

North America 1799. — Journeys to New Lebanon Springs, to Lake George &c.

We quitted Philadelphia on the 2^d of June, intending to bend our course to the North, a part of the Country with which we were unacquainted.

Our first stage was to New York, where we passed a fortnight with our friend Mr. McCormick; enjoying the society of the Families of Dout, & the Myards, with many other kind friends, & then set out for Albany. — On the 18th we took our Passage in an Albany Sloop & sailed at six in the morning — evening — our accommodation was extremely good, the weather fine, & we were happy to get free from great Towns during the heat. — This voyage is sometimes made in 18 hours, the distance being a hundred & sixty ^{five} miles, — it is pretty much the same as by Land. ~~indeed~~.

A Southerly wind very soon removed from our view the Town of New York, & we were much gratified by the appearance of the beautiful Villas ranged along the Hudson, ~~at~~ the distance of seven or eight miles. — The opposite (or Jersey side) producing a fine contrast of Wood & Rocks mixed with gloomy grandeur. — The vast number of Sloop^s & Brigs scattered on the River added to the variety

The setting Sun enlivening or saddening the scene.

About nine O'clock at night all was changed, a sudden gust arose, I have said that these storms of Thunder lightning & rain always cool & refresh the air & indeed, I have observed that when ^{they were} frequent there existed no yellow fever. We remained on Deck viewing the effects of the lightning; its vivid flashes every moment displaying the Romantic scenery around us, while the roaring of the Thunder was ~~not~~ echoed by the Hills & Rocks. — Though the Moon was little past the full the night was dark, & at ~~ten~~ we were forced down to the Cabin by a heavy shower of rain. — The violence of the storm obliged us to anchor for the night. — Next morning proved fine, but the wind being against us we did not get under way till after breakfast.

On rising I found that the ^{Vessel} ~~was~~ was lying very near the ~~land~~ on the Jersey side, — We sent the Boat on shore & got fresh Milk from a Fishermans Hat. — We passed Fort Washington & at the distance of 15 miles, came to the termination of York Island.

No wind all day, after the tide left us we were obliged to anchor & wait till ^{its return} ~~the evening tide~~ again enabled us to set sail. We anchored opposite to a pretty building, called Phillips Manor, near it a gilded Spire

over
~~at~~ topped the Ford, & on the shore was a Mill near to an
 adjoining Creek, from whence we procured excellent water.
 We were likewise supplied with strawberries & cornish.

We sailed slowly through the night with light winds.
 At six on Thursday morning found ourselves passing
 rapidly through the Highlands, - being then about forty
 miles from New York. - At the entrance to these, the
 River is about seven miles broad, & one of the first objects
 that presented itself was Stony point; - The Highlands
 are ^{miles in extent} ~~twenty~~ ~~forming~~ on both sides of the River: very
 beautiful, & very majestic objects. - ~~Stony point~~
~~Stony point~~ & High Hills, wooded to their summits, ~~are~~ all
bold & romantic. - Here & there the scenery softened by
 a pretty house & small garden-ground. - The Port
 of Montgomery is on the New York side, those of
Putney & West-point on the Jersey side, - the last
 well fortified with a handsome House & Barracks.

West-point offers one of the most magnificent
 objects to be conceived. - The River, which had gradually
 been reduced to two miles, seems to press itself into
 still smaller bounds in order to pass ^{throughly} ~~across~~ the Mountain,
 in a conveys, not exceeding half a mile. -

This was the Pass which General Arnold meant
 to have delivered to General Clinton, - & a House about a
 mile from West-point was that in which Arnold

the unfortunate Major Andree held their meetings.

We now approached the termination of the High Lands, & the objects rather increased in beauty. The River wearing sometimes the appearance of a fine Lake, completely surrounded with Hills & Rocks, out of which there seemed to be no passage, when after a sharp, though beautiful winding, the objects changed, - the Rocks the lofty wooded Hills & romantic Cliffs sunk from our view, & there appeared an expanse of Water level Banks, crowded with Houses, & frequently populous Villages. - The Rocks being since the Inhabitants are almost supported by ~~some~~ hills, from hence it is transported in Boats to the adjacent Ports. -

The wind continuing fair we made great way in the afternoon, & anchored at Albany by ~~ten~~ ^{during} at night.

We had ^{during} passed the second day, the small Town near which poor Major Andree was taken, the very Tree (a Tulip Tree) beneath which he was seized & beached is plainly to be seen. -

Within fifty miles of ~~Albany~~ Albany, on the New York side, the Manor of Livingston is visible, - some of the Houses very showy, others are beautifully embosomed in Wood. -

We landed at Albany to breakfast on Friday morning, our passage having lasted two days & three nights.

rights. Albany was, I believe, the extent of Hudson's Discovery of the River, to which he gives his name. — This Town was first settled by the Dutch, & some of the ^{municipal} families in the neighbourhood are of Dutch extraction. — The old Dutch Houses still remain, with their gabel ends to the Street, & an old low Dutch Church is yet in use. —

The convenient position of Albany renders it a rising place. — The Seat of Assembly is now removed to it, & it is, of course, the residence of the Governor of the State. — We rode five or six miles up the ~~the~~ River, saw on the other side a small Town called Troy, & on this side the beginning of one called Washington. —

On the 22^d of June ~~we~~ set out for the Springs of Lebanon. — This is a romantic Settlement at the distance of thirty miles from Albany West, & bordering on the State of Massachusetts, our road lay through a wild hilly ~~country~~ ^{district} such as America often exhibits.

On approaching Lebanon the country opens, & appears a vast basin or Valley, formed by the termination of a number of ^{Hills} ~~Mountains~~ of different forms & of different heights; almost all cultivated in pasture to their tops. — after several turnings through this Valley we arrived at the Springs, around which are at present three Taverns for the accommodation of those who use the Waters;

The Springs fitted up for use, (for there are several, & on one is a neat bathing house,) are on the ascent of one of these Hills. - It is from hence that you have the most pleasing view of the Valley, covered with pretty little houses & cultivated fields; - This Country has every appearance of health, but an Invalid might find it a disadvantage, never to walk without descending & ascending a steep Hill. -

^{Spot}
~~Country~~ About thirty years ago this now populous ~~Country~~ was inhabited by Indians solely, & Sir William Johnson's well known in ~~America~~ ^{for his influence over the Indians} & then residing at his house of Johnson on the ^{banks of the} Mohawk, had a sore leg. - The Indians living at ~~Albany~~ ^{Lebanon} had discovered these Springs, over one of which they erected a Hut & bringing their favourite in a litter, bathed him in it & cured him; - Sir William is said to have been the first white Man ever bathed in these waters. - They are mild & pleasant, ~~the heat being scarcely tepid~~, for the spring from which you drink, is of the same temperature as those in which you bathe, & is the common drinking water. - The greatest curiosity in this part of the Country is a Society of Inakers called - Shakers, - they inhabit a very pretty village amongst the

For many years
 Superintendent of the
 Indians for many years

~~the~~ ~~Mission~~ - Their government is a sort of the republick,
administered democratically. - They labour in common
for the Society which supports them, & those who on
entering possess wealth must give it up to the
common Fund. - They act under the direction of
a Chief or Elder, whom they choose, but who is
all powerful in his government. - Under him
are Inspectors of all classes, with different degrees
of authority. - Marriage is expressly prohibited;
& those who become culpable are turned out of
the Society for ever. - it is said, but I know not
how true, that certain faults are punished cor-
porately. - Marriage being forbidden the existence of
the Society depends upon Procelities, & the number
of these becomes every day ^{smaller} ~~less~~, while desertion gains
ground. - Those who run away (for this is the mode)
of course leave behind them the property they
may have put into the Fund, & it is now about
to become a question in law whether it can be
recovered. - Married persons are admitted, but it is
after having renounced each other, & given up their
children to the ^{rules} ~~hands~~ of the order. - In consequence
of this order of celibacy the Men & Women inhabit
different Houses, - There are in this village four
Houses, - the Principal one for the heads of the Society.

Every Man follows his Trade, & they not only make every thing necessary for their own use, but supply the whole Neighbourhood even with Vegetables, having the best cultivated fields & gardens in the Country. - all the profit, above their maintenance, - goes to the General Fund. - You often meet the Brothers carrying about their provisions in Carts & Waggon, - even these are fitted up with more neatness than others, their Dress ~~also~~ distinguishes them on the road & they are equally distinguished in the Neighbourhood by their good order, good faith, Industry & benevolence;

The Women spin, weave, cook, & weed in the gardens & all so well ^{arranged} ~~performed~~ as to keep ^{them always} the budget.

We ^{went to} ~~attended~~ their meeting one Sunday & their mode of Worship is one of the most singular circumstances attending them.

This room of meeting is a pretty building about 40 feet long & 50 broad, neatly fitted up & lighted, & a Chimney at each end. - Benches are for themselves are ranged for seats at ~~that~~ ends, Strangers are invited to occupy the Benches placed in a different part of the room. - The Inakers, though they entered at different times, came always in groups, & at last amounted - Men & Women, to near a hundred & sixty. - The Dress of both was uniform & very

simple, the large straw hat with which they entered was taken off & each Woman adjusted the plain male cap of her Neighbour. The Men, it being warm weather, were without their Coats, black vests, the sleeves of the shirt very full & a black ribbon tied round the middle of the arm. The Person who appeared as Preacher had on a coat.

after being collected & seated - which was a work of time, - they sat near half an hour quiet, - then, at the same moment all arose, ranging themselves with as ^{much} ~~accuracy~~ as the best disciplined Soldiers could have done, - (but each ~~see~~ keeping separate ends of the apartment) half a dozen of the Women, a little distant from the rest, began to sing ⁱⁿ a sort of Ding Dong hymn tune, but without words, - this ended as suddenly as it had begun, & after another long silence the Preacher arose & began a Discourse, but so low & indistinctly as scarcely to be heard, - He seemed to dwell on the propriety of following, in Worship, ^{ing} of God the impulses of the spirit; mentioned with much gratitude their Sect having lived nineteen years in this happy mode of worship, & concluded with a hint to the Spectators to restrain from indecent mirth & indeed, this then appeared not unnecessary. for, after another pause, they ~~they~~ again arranged themselves with Military exactness, - eight or nine

in each row, - the female Band recommenced their Sing Song, but nearly to the measure of gig time, & the groups, Male & Female, began to Dance - a jump & a sink, advancing gently up the room, then another turning & a jump & a sink down the room, - in the sinks the knees bent a good deal, & in the jumps they advanced always a few steps. - all this was performed, for about twenty minutes, with perfect precision & celerity, - their eyes bent to the ground & a white handkerchief in their hands. - This dance, in description, may appear ludicrous, but at the performance I certainly felt more inclination to cry than to laugh, - nor did I perceive a smile upon any countenance. -

The Dance finished they retired, & we were told that after half an hour's interval the same was repeated, - but we had got enough of it. -

formerly it seems their movements were more violent, & their gesticulations convulsive, - they sometimes wheeled round till the Spectators became giddy - The restraint this exercise had reduced them to moderation.

It is about twenty two years since this Sect was first established in America, but not above twelve since they formed themselves into regular & permanent Societies upon their present domestic plans. - The Founders of these Shakers was Maria Leach.

the Wife, it is said, of one of General Montgoin's soldiers;
 six thousand extravagancies were committed before she
 fixed her residence, & established the first Society at
Adgnessiac, eight miles from Albany where she died.
 In visiting another of these societies we sounded the
Shief—upon what part of the Scriptures their mode
 of Worship was founded, but got nothing farther than,
 "that David danced before the Lord." They
 treated us with much hospitality & kindness—

1799 North America - Journey to Lake George & to Fort Ticonderoga.

on Monday morning the 22^d of July we quitted the Springs of Libanon, where I had past a Month of quiet

^{Mr. Lister & Mr. Thornton} had gone to New York to ^{Mr. Lister & Mr. Thornton} ~~dispute the Packet~~ ^{notwithstanding the accident of one of our Carriages} ~~at the Springs.~~ ^{breaking down & part of our company entering the} ~~at the Springs.~~ ^{Town in a Cart.}

Next morning we took a ride to the Cohoes falls on the Mohawk River, at the distance of 11 miles from Albany, & three from the mouth of this River. which is about 500 yards wide. above the falls, & forms the whole body of its waters over a perpendicular Rock of about 40 feet in height, & extending across the River like a Mill-dam. - The banks immediately below the falls are about 100 feet

distant, The prospect is very good from the Bridge. - about a mile below, but we viewed them from every direction, descending down the banks to the bottom, which was a continued bed of flat Rock. -

On Thursday the 25th of August we set out for Lake George, in an extra Stage for ourselves, another following with our servants & baggage. We had in addition to our own family (consisting of Lord Henry Stenard & Mr. Thornton) Mr. McCormick

from New York, & M. David Erskine of Canada from Scotland, both these gentlemen had joined us at Delaware.

The road was pretty good, the Country open & pleasant, but the heat & dust rather lessened to me the pleasure of the ride. — We lodged that night at Indians a good house near the Village of Still-water, — which is a beautiful part of the Hudson where the water is deep & tranquil, — our whole days journey had been along its Banks. — We now approached the Acric-ground, the Troops of General Bourgoigne once occupied this part of the Country, & next day at a few miles distant from Indians, we reached the spot on which he had surrendered his arms.

In the course of this day we passed Fort Edward, — Mounds of earth alone mark where it stood. — On a rising ground about a mile further on, the spot is shown on which the unfortunate Miss McGray was murdered by an Indian, — Her lover, Capt. Jones, to whom she ^{was} immediately to have ^{been} married, was in Bourgoigne's army; He sent two trusty Indians to the House of an aunt, with whom she lived near Fort Edward, — promising them a Barrel of Whisky if they conducted her safely to the Camp; — This was perhaps the greatest reward an Indian could

receive. — The agreement was overheard by two Indians of another Nation, who getting out soon after met this unhappy young Woman, with her two Escorts — at the top of the Hill. — The two Parties disputed the Prize — concluding, that the Drum would be given to whoever delivered the Lady into the hands of Capt. Jones. — the combat was violent, & one of the Strangers, finding that he & his Companion were likely to have the worst of it, ran up to Miss M'Cray, who ^{had} clung to a Tree trembling with apprehension, & raising his Tomahawk killed & scalped her in the course of a few minutes. — a spring issues near the Tree. General Monrogn did not venture to witness this shocking outrage. —

We dined at a pretty healthy looking Village called Sandy Hill — Here is one of those large Stores, frequently kept by Innkeepers in this Country, & which in the mild unsalted ^{tracts} ~~tracts~~ prove the most profitable part of their business. —

A few miles from Sandy Hill we turned a little out of our way to see Glens-falls on the Hudson. — these are singularly picturesque from the bed of Rocks over which the water tumbles, — & from the various forms, positions, & appearances of an immense collection of Rocks, — still more than ^{from the}

Body of water (though that is not contemptible,) ¹⁷² ~~which~~
& which surprises the Spectator. — We were inclined however to
find fault with Mr. Glen — who, gives his name to these
Falls — for having greatly lessened their beauty by a
number of Mills erected about them, but the Americans
have not yet learned to beautify their Country at the
expense of their Interest.

We reached Lake George that evening in
the midst of a thunder gust so violent as entirely to
deprive us of that fine Conspicuous from the top
of the Hill, produced by the Lake opening on the
view. — After riding some miles through continued
Woods — We found, at the Edge of the Lake, a House
of entertainment apparently intended — originally,
as Barracks or Store Houses. — The heavy rain
which followed repeated Claps of Thunder & flashes
of lightning, wetted us completely in only alighting
from the Carriage. — The honest Inhabitants made
immediately large fires & after shifting me sat
comfortably down to a Supper of excellent Wafers,
with which the Lake is amply supplied, & which
I imagine constitutes the chief support of the
Inhabitants, — it is amongst the best fresh water fish.

Next day was fine weather & the Master
of the House ^{Mr. Menon} preparing a small Boat, kept
by him

by him for the purpose of carrying strangers across the Lake;
We set out with two Norons, Mr. Norman himself being
one of them.

Lake George is a beautiful expanse of Water
in length extending 36 miles from South to North, & from one to
seven miles wide. — It encloses 200 Islands (some say 365) almost
all wooded, & beautifully varied in size & form. The
water of this Lake is so clear & limpid that it was,
formerly, used by the French Inhabitants of Canada
for holy purposes, & called Lake Sacrament.

It is embosomed by thickly wooded hills, of
unequal heights, the trees consist chiefly of the finest
red Cedar. — The little wind there was being
rather against us, we dined on cold meat & amused
ourselves with catching fish for supper, with
trotting lines. — & late in the evening we landed,
(at the beginning of another lynch) at a very small
poor looking house at the North end of the Lake.
The civility of the Master & Mistress compensated
even for the inconvenience of the four gentlemen

my husband had with sleeping on the floor, at the side of the wretched
him by means by which modest, in which Mr. Lister & I spent the night.
he could fasten up a
blanket round over it.

We were on a neck of land of about
3 miles, which divides Lake George from Lake
Champlain, — a Creek running from the one to
the other

the other would continue the navigation was it not intercepted by very considerable Falls, Lake George rising a hundred feet above Lake Champlain will perhaps, at some future period, render the cutting a Canal through this passage an object of consideration.

We procured a Cart, - the only vehicle to be found. - & proceeded to Fort Ticonderago on a height at the junction of the Waters of these two Lakes. - The Fort is now in ruins, but these sufficiently display its former strength & importance. - The French lines, (for the Fort was built by them) were extensive & still plainly marked by the remains of Redoubts & Batteries. - The Plain below, where their Troops were reviewed, appears worthy such a Parade. -

This ~~mass~~ of Land is tolerably cultivated & peopled. a few French families are settled on the opposite banks in very miserable Huts. -

Immediately below the Fort, Lake Champlain opens on the view. It is very extensive though only a mile broad where we saw it. - We took up our quarters in an old Store at the edge of the Water, now converted into a House of Entertainment. where we got an excellent breakfast, & were afterwards rowed, by our Landlord's Son, across the Lake & landed in the State of Vermont

which is on the opposite shore - here we visited a remarkable Salt-spring in the little Village of Brwell in Husband County, the Salt is a fine Glimmer - We dined where we had breakfasted & in the evening, returned to our poor quarters at the edge of the Lake house.

On Monday the 2^d we set out very early on our return across the Lake - the wind being against us we were sixteen hours in our passage, - We landed on Friends point, as it is called, & made a quiet breakfast at a Fishermans Cottage on Milk & bread for, trusting entirely to our cars, it was necessary to give rest.

Evening near the ^{land} ~~bank~~, in the Entry part of the afternoon, We spied two rattle snakes on the top of the Banks, either fighting (as it seemed) or playing, their bodies were ~~twisted~~ ^{twisted} together & raised a ~~high and~~ ^{high and} ~~half way up~~ ^{half way up} to give us a distinct view of them. As I had, at setting out, expressed a strong desire to see Rattle Snakes in their native Woods (the Islands & Banks of this Lake being remarkably full of them) - The Boatmen immediately rowed to the spot, climbing up the Banks one of the Men, with the stroke of a stick, rendered both of them insensible. This was more than I had intended, being quite satisfied with the sight of them. - The Crew were more so much engaged as not to have perceived

the Wife it is said of one of General Bourgeois Soldiers
a thousand extravagances were committed before she fixed
her residence & established the first Society at Neqressiac
eight miles from Albany where she died.

In visiting another of these Societies where we
were kindly entertained M. Leston ventured to sound
the Chief upon what part of the Scriptures their
mode of Worship was founded but nothing further
could be made of them than that they danced
before the Lord.

their danger, - a string was tied round their necks & they were brought down to the Boat. - One was five feet long the other more, they proved to be male & female, the latter ~~former~~ much thicker in the body & lighter in colour - their rattles were few in number, one had 7 the others 8.

It seems to be a mistake their having a rattle for each year, - those that have been confined, have sometimes got two or three in a year, & the people of the Country said the two in question were larger ^{than they are in} general & yet fewer rattles, - towards the Southern States they are much larger than in the Northern ones, - These creatures, whose bite is so fatal, are not easily provoked, - you may pass near them, it is said, without any ~~regard~~ ^{regard} provided you do not touch or molest them.

[Even when you do they are incapable of pursuing]

Their mode of attack is by coiling themselves up, shaking their rattle, & then darting to their full length but no further. - these preparations affording time for the traveller to escape, renders this a less formidable enemy than many others of their tribe, - The poison of the rattle-snake is inclosed in small bags at the roots of two long sharp pointed teeth, hollow, a little curved, & placed one on each side of the jaw - the poison entering through the tube at the moment that the ^{sharp} tooth makes the ^{wound} ~~inflict~~ the

The Liver of this reptile is used by the Indians as the cure of the bite, & so little hills or, at least ^{tribe} stupifies all the ^{of snakes}, that this remedy is easily procured, but late experiments makes oil equally efficacious. — The Liver, together with the fat & the gall having been discovered to be medicinal, & readily purchased by the apothecaries, killing Rattle snakes is become a sort of trade in those parts of the Country they frequent. — The Hog, is however, the most potent enemy the Rattle Snake has, for it eats them without fear or danger. — Towards the South, where the woods abound with wild Hogs, the Rattle snakes are much diminished. — The Hog, beginning at the head, conquers them of whatever size. — This safety is supposed to proceed from the coat of fat with which the veins of that animal of the stomach is guarded. — The white ash is also a security against their increase, where that Tree abounds. The Indians say, that a ^{rattle} Snake would rather pass through the fire than over a stick of white ash. — a report prevails, with perhaps less truth, that however insensible the Rattle Snake may be rendered, it does not die till the setting of the Sun. Our two companions had lain quiet in the bottom of the boat, & we waited for the setting Sun to ascertain the fact, but when examined about that time we

found one of them greatly recovered, it even made an effort to dart at the stick with which it was touched. We immediately, in some alarm, had the head ^{of both} cut off with the Montmore hatchet. - from this ^{we must have} ~~may~~ concluded that the observation ought to be reversed. - at landing we had them skinned & tempted by the whiteness of the flesh, got a bit broiled & tasted it, the colour was that of a chicken, & they tasted like an old stringy fowl. - they are probably better food with the Indians who make always Soup of them. -

about the middle of this truly beautiful Lake we landed on one of the Islands, abounding in wild fruits particularly cherries, & commanding a fine view of the other Islands. - I took (with the consent of the company) possession of it, with the usual forms. - Lord Henry ^{Stenapt} fired a gun, & the other gentlemen broke a bottle of wine. - Mr. Vernon, our landlord, immediately gave it my name. -

We slept at our quarters on Tuesday, taking leave of Vernon & his Wife, - who had been very civil & attentive, we set out on our return to Albany, taking a view, en passant, of the remains of Fort George which was situated on an eminence commanding a delightful prospect. Here we ^{found} the finest wild Gooseberries & Madberries

the Gooseberries were of two kinds the rough & the smooth
indeed, I had never before seen this fruit wild, - it does not
in America, ^{thence} even in a cultivated state farther South than Albany.

We slept that night at an Inn kept by an old
half way British officer, & next morning reached the
Springs of Saratoga to breakfast, through a wild wooded
road with very few settlements; little company frequenting
these Springs, the unhealthiness of the Marshes not being
compensated even by the virtues of the water. The
Spring which is very near the Village is neatly fitted
up, - it is a strong Chalybeate, clear & limpid - among
the edges there is an incrustation ^{the sides of} resembling a stone
jar, & the Spring used to boil up but the fall of a tree,
having cracked the ^{crystal} incrustation, the water no
longer reaches its mouth. & that

About a mile on, is another mineral of the
same nature, said to be still stronger called Congress
Spring in order to see this we turned a little out of the
direct road we were pursuing to Ballston Spring.
From the Congress Spring there is a glauco salt
extracted very strong & of a yellow colour. - Our
road to Ballston was through continued Woods &
Marshes, one or two fields only being yet cleared.

Lord Grenville 9
In one of these ^{fields} near a Ditch we perceived a
small speckled Snake in the action of swallowing
being in a ^{theatrical} position

a pretty large frog, ^{one} the foot of the frog was in its mouth & to secure itself from being drawn away by superior strength, it had twined its tail round a stick that lay across the ditch. — Having heard that this was a very slow process, & might last some days I thought it still possible to save the frog with the possible loss of its foot only. — I got a boy on the road to lift it & putting his foot on the tail of the Snake it soon quit it, & the frog hopped away.

we had almost with incredulity heard a similar instance related.

at the distance of eight or nine miles the prospect opened on Ballston Springs, at a Village situated in a Valley & containing two very large handsome Houses of Entertainment between which, the Spring & Baths are placed. The whole appearance, as we contemplated it from the rising ground, was strange & picturesque.

The number of bare trees, ^{the} quantity already cut down but not removed, with those yet standing — The crowd of small new houses scattered about, — together with the surrounding hills, gave to it the contradictory appearance of a peopled Wilderness. —

in consequence of a strip of the bark being cut off round the tree the year before

The water is much the same as that at Saratoga, both ^{more} very cold. — We passed the day & night at the best of these Houses, & sat down to a public Table with nearly a hundred persons, two thirds of whom came for amusement. — We were glad to get off next morning at an

early hour ~~next day~~ & at eight miles distance crossed
the Mohawk by a Ferry, & nine miles further reached
Shanectady where we dined. —

Shanectady is a very ^{ancient} place & was once the
Warrior Town to the State of New York ^{against} the Indians,
it is on the Margin of the Mohawk River & was, it is
said, long the scene of bloody affrays. — The Town was
originally built by the Dutch, (to whom New York &
all this part of the Country belonged,) all the old
buildings are still Dutch, & most of the respectable
families in the Neighbourhood are Descendants from
that people, as their names indicate. — Shanectady
was the Great Mart for the Fur trade at that period. —

We reached Albany at the distance of 16 miles,
in the evening, — We have chosen this as our
head quarters for the Summer, intending to
make all our excursions from hence. Watts
Inn is a comfortable one, & we are now at home
in it. —

early from our party at night, and the morning
 the following day a heavy rain fell, and we
 remained in our quarters.
 The morning was very fine, and we
 started from the State of Virginia, and
 it is in the region of the Shenandoah, and it is
 said, that the scene of beauty of the Shenandoah
 is generally built up the mountain, and the
 all the part of the country beyond the Shenandoah
 is called the Blue Ridge, and the mountains
 are the highest and the most beautiful from
 that people, as their names indicate. The
 was the first time for the first time at that point.
 The road is very good, and the distance is
 in the morning. We have seen this as our
 head quarters for the summer, and we are
 making all our arrangements from here. The
 here is a comfortable one, and we are now at home
 in it.

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