



An organ is in the gallery; and other instruments of music, are often joined with it on festivals.

The second apartment, into which the Bishop attended us, was a hall adorned with portraits of the half length of count Zinzendorf, and about twenty of the most distinguished ministers and missionaries of this fraternity, who have served among them, from their first establishment in America.

Portraits of some of the wives of these deceased ministers, who have attended them in their missions, are also seen in this hall.

From these scenes we passed into the house, devoted to the single sisters. One of them, being called, to attend us, we saw this habitation, and obtained information from her, upon their ecclesiastical affairs.

The kitchen is so conveniently constructed, that two women may cook provision for one hundred and thirty persons.

They have rooms, in this sisters house, of about twenty feet square, in which six or eight women, make their residence by day. The employments of spinning and reeling of cotton, embroidery, painting and schooling, are in separate rooms.

In the needle work they excel, in figure and shades, both with silk and cotton.

The chapel of this choir has an organ and several pieces of instrumental music, which are played upon by the sisterhood, at their devotions.

Indeed

Indeed, in almost every room, we saw some musical instrument—an organ, harpsichord or forte-piano. These are in many private families, in this settlement and other villages.

Devotions are attended every morning—An eldress presides and officiates. She sometimes delivers a lecture upon piety and morals.

We were permitted to see the dormitory, in which forty of these women sleep in an upper story. This is a large, lofty, airy room, with a lamp suspended in the centre, which burns during the night; over it, is a ventilator in the wall, which causes the circulation of fresh air.

Before we left this house we visited a room called the store, in which are deposited upon shelves, and in drawers, large collections of the specimens of female industry, which they constantly vend.

Our design was to have seen the female school, erected for, and devoted to, the instruction of children from other parts of the States, and the West-India islands, with the girls of the fraternity, who are of the same age. But, the accustomed hour for this privilege, had not arrived, and the friendly attendant took me to the great reservoir or conduit, which receives the water from the machinery, at the bottom of the hill, and conveys it by pipes, under ground, to many public places.

In a building formed as a pyramid, about fifty feet in height, we saw the pipes, which convey water to the tavern, the Congregation, Sisters, Widows, Brothers, and several other houses. We ascended by ladders, to the upper
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part of this edifice, and saw the summit, to which the water was and might yet be conveyed. The constant current prevents freezing in winter, although so small a quantity is exposed to the air.

From hence we went to the common schools for the boys, who are under the care of masters, in a house adjoining to that of the brothers.

These children are taught reading, writing, arithmetic and accounts, as well as the catechism, and music connected with religion and devotion.

Our next visit was to the brothers house, which is but a counter-part to that of the sisters. Its hall for prayers, apartments for tradesmen, and a dormitory are in the different stories of this building. They have their meals together, in general. Some take their dinners only at the common table. Apprentices frequently board with their masters in town. They all sleep in the common dormitory, and every one in a separate bed.

Their morning and evening devotions are under the direction of a single brother, a clergyman. The office of warden, and that of this clergyman, are sometimes united in one person, when the number of inhabitants in such houses is small, as is at present in Bethlehem, Nazareth and Litiz.

The number of single men, or brethren, is now very small, compared with former times. All boys from the age of twelve are to reside here, as well as all the unmarried men, unless the

the circumstances of a parent require the presence of his children.

From the walk on the top of this house, we were entertained with a view of the gardens, neighbouring fields, mountains, and the rivers Lehigh and Manakasy. The mountain is in the rear, descending gradually to the lower grounds, and heightening the view by its verdure.

The variety of walks, rows of trees, and the plenty with which the gardens and meadows were stored, displayed taste, industry and economy. To preserve the banks, the common willow is planted, and not suffered to grow to a great height.

The Manakasy is crossed by four bridges, for the convenience of the gardens, and other places, beside two others, one above and another below the road and gardens.

The sloping banks formed by nature, and the walks by which we mount the hill, prepared by labor, join their varieties, to convert this fertile spot into the appearance of a pleasure garden.

Great pains are taken, to assign a requisite portion, for the culture of all who need. In that which is near the widows house, are small divisions, for family gardens, which are cultivated as such.

In a plain gallery or summer-house, on the side of this hill, built for the shelter of the children, who may be permitted to recreate themselves in a rainy or sultry day, was an aged missionary, busy in preserving certain seeds and medicinal herbs. Retired from the labors of

his function for many years, among the Indians of North America, he resides in part of the congregation house, which is devoted with other buildings to aged ministers. Our visit led him, to resign his employment, and to give a succinct view of the Moravian missions. We parted, after I had obtained permission to visit him, in his apartments.

The hour being convenient for visiting the girls school, so much celebrated, a pleasing groupe appeared in different rooms, under the care of their tutresses, where they learn reading, writing, arithmetic, embroidery, drawing and music.

Since the applications to receive pupils from abroad, have become so frequent and numerous, a new building has been erected for their use, upon a similar model, with the sisters house. A small court yard, or grass plat, is between these buildings.

In the rear of this, is another small enclosure, which forms a broad grass walk and is skirted on each side by beds devoted to flowers, which the girls cultivate, as their own.

In the vicinity of the chapel is a corpse-house, designed to receive the body previous to sepulture, in order to relieve the poor, and those whose houses are small, or when the deceased fell a prey to some infectious disorder. After this in suitable weather, it is attended with great solemnity to a grave-yard, upon the summit of a hill.

That neatness and decency which mark every thing here, are conspicuous in the place of
burial

burial. It is surrounded partly with a stone wall, towards the street, where it cannot be enlarged, partly with a neat wooden fence, on those sides where it may be extended from time to time. The graves are laid out in perfect order, and each forms a flat hillock. The grave-stones are about fourteen inches square, and present only the name, age, and native country of the persons, without any other monumental epitaphs or ornaments. This stone lies upon the grave. The departed members of the different choirs or orders, are buried together in separate rows. The funerals are attended with great decorum. The females are dressed in white, and black is not worn as mourning.

The remarks, which the reader may wish for in this production, will be interspersed in the same order, in which they occurred on this visit. Indulged with the view of this variety of objects, the hour of twelve, called us to retire to the inn.

My guide, Mr. Thomas, brought for my amusement Mr. Brailsfords's experimental dissertations, on the chemical and medical properties of the *Nicotiana Tobaccum*, of Linnæus, commonly known by the name of Tobacco, and the master of the inn furnished me with Crantz's history of the brethren, a view of the missions, and the liturgy and hymn-book of this society.

This disposition to oblige, has made Mr. Thomas very dear to all, who are acquainted with him. In the Bishop's apartment, in the brothers and sisters houses, in the schools, and
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among the inhabitants and strangers he is saluted by all, with great respect and affection. In the girls school in particular, he was received with peculiar attention, by the instructresses and pupils. Upon the visits of their parents, he escorts them, that they may not pass the streets alone. This he punctually observes in the evenings. The minister of this place, * the Revd. Mr. Van Vleck oversees these schools and examines their progress from time to time. His wife, whom he married in Germany, at the time, when he attended a synod with the Bishop, assists also. She was educated in a sisters house, in her native country and is an amiable woman. Females trained to the office of instructing, assist this worthy couple in Bethlehem.

The cloistered life and single state of the nuns in roman catholic countries, have been subjects for many remarks. The institutions here are not of that nature, as the women marry, and the single sisters walk abroad, and visit their friends and neighbours, when they think proper. This day, one of them, who is an instructress, was at the inn, and took part of the dessert after dinner.

A lady from Philadelphia, whose daughter was at the school, had solicited this visit, at the hour when the schools were not together.

These instructresses are treated with due respect. All females are educated by them, but all do not leave their fathers houses and families, to enter the sisters house as residents.

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* Now the Rev. Andrew Benade.

In forming matrimonial alliances, each have seen the other, from their birth, on all public occasions;—As the village is not large, each know the temper, character, relations and connections of the other.

The sister who honored us with her visit, was sensible, polite, modest and entertaining. A former pupil had now become a wife, and her husband was one of the company. In one of the schools, I recognized one of these sisters, whom I had seen about three years before in New-York, visiting one of her pupils, who was married and was mistress of the house, enjoying the company of her tutress.

These incidents are detailed, to explain the nature of the life of these women.

At one end of the room, in which we saw the portraits of Count Zinzendorf, the ministers and missionaries, a painting on canvass is hung, which presents, the divine Saviour in the clouds, attended by angels, descending from the superior regions, and surrounded with the various converts among the heathen, who were the first fruits of the Brethren's missions.

Some of these are represented as having departed this life, others standing on the earth, viewing the heavenly choir. It is picturesque of the call to every nation, language and tongue, to embrace the general salvation.

In the brothers house, was a youth of about fourteen years of age, who had broke his leg. He was accompanied by a man, who was far advanced in life, and appeared to be there as a

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visitor.

visitor. The physician or surgeon met us at the head of the stairs. He was a gentleman of those affable manners, which are observable among the whole body of the United Brethren, and cultivated carefully by them.

In the dormitory of the young men, is a painted canvass or slate, which contains the number of the respective beds.—Its use is to mark the hour, in which any one wishes to rise: The person who guards this room every night, observes the notification, which is made on this canvass or slate, and they are called up accordingly. In this apartment some elder brother attends morning prayers with the others.

Among the varied enjoyments of this settlement, is a pleasant walk on the banks of the river Lehigh. Nature has furnished a shade, by means of the trees, which grow near the margin. But, this is improved by a row of locust trees between them and the road or walk.

Thus a thick shade is made for almost the whole day. Seats are placed for rest, and to enable the visitors to view the river at leisure. An island also assists to give beauty and variety, as well as to afford a retired bathing-place. Not far from these seats and in full view is a large bridge supported by piers of stone, and some farm-houses on the opposite shore. Canoes are stationed here, for conveying such as wish to visit the island, which is frequently done.

During

During the excursion we made to this spot, we met the tutresses of two schools, walking with their pupils for the benefit of air and exercise. Innocence, health and contentment marked the countenances of these little bands. The salutations of respect from every age and sex are never omitted.

Near the river is a large brew-house, the wash-house, and bathing-room, devoted to the female schools. This last is surrounded and sheltered by trees in every direction.

No one goes into the water without suitable bathing-clothes and attendants.

A clear stream, convenient shoal and bottom render the place safe and useful.

At some distance in the rear, behind the trees, is a distillery and saw-mill, whose works are set in motion by the small stream of the Manakasy.

The mechanism of these works is not peculiar. The pump is set in motion by a small water-wheel, at several rods distance, which is connected with long wooden bars and small sheeves.

The logs are drawn by wheel-work to their stations in the mill, in order to assist the workmen and prevent the usual manual labour, in this part of the business.

On the edge of the hill retired from the town, was a very large collection of bee-hives, in a convenient situation, removed from the neighbourhood of passengers, and amidst an extensive range for their labours.

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