



The gardens we passed on our return to the town, are plentifully stored with fruit and vegetables, and the fields are covered with grass.

Contiguous to the stables and yard of the tavern, are the buildings under the direction of the farmer-general of Bethlehem. The house and part of the stables, join the public street; the stables appearing as an high stone wall, having proper apertures for the circulation of air. They shelter forty cows, who supply the inhabitants of the town with milk. This quantity is not sufficient, and more are kept by the single sisters for the use of their choir and the girls who are boarders.

Water is conveyed into the kitchens, dairy-room and barn-yard, by different pipes under ground. So convenient is this for every purpose, that little time or trouble are requisite, to obtain so important an article.

The milk-pans and butter stand in vessels, which are placed in a large wooden vat, through which fresh water constantly circulates.

Churning is performed with the aid of a very cheap and simple machine, which moves upon the same principles with the pendulum of a clock. A weight is suspended by a small wooden bar, fixed into a roller or axle above. To this roller is affixed an arm of wood, at the end of which is fastened the staff within the churn. The weight sets the churn in a regular motion by the labour of one person.

In winter and bad weather, the cows are milked within the stables.

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The widows' house, we were told was conducted upon the same plan, with those of the single brethren and sisters. Retired from the world and in the decline of years, their quiet is seldom disturbed by the visit of strangers. This is signified as their wish. Few consequently, are importunate to gain a sight of their mansion.

The number of widows is much larger, than that of widowers, owing to a variety of circumstances. In particular that many of the widowers are abroad on distant missions and settlements, and that they more frequently marry again than the women. Fatherless and motherless children, are constantly taken care of in the brothers and sisters' houses. Second marriages are probably not so frequent here, as in other places, on this account.

This evening two of the sisters drank tea, at the inn, with a lady from Philadelphia, whose daughter is in the school.

The following morning we visited the more laborious employments, in this colony, such as those of the grist, oil, fulling, hulling, snuff and bark mills.

A variety of ingenious inventions, and plans for facilitating business, appear in all of them. It might be tedious to a reader to enter into a very minute detail of every thing which is to be seen here. These works are erected under the bank west of the town, upon the waters of the Manakasy, whose stream is not large, but the water is husbanded with great care, as it passes through the various reservoirs, pentstocks,

pentstocks, and wheel-works. The waters of this stream decrease yearly, as the country on its banks is cleared of wood, and as the settlers near it, draw the waters from it, upon their meadows.

In the grist-mill was a simple but convenient species of wheelbarrow, for removing bags. It is fixed upon two small round blocks placed at the end of the axle, of about six inches diameter. A small board, in the form of that at the head of the larger wheelbarrows, is affixed to this axle, and slides under the bag, which is brought upon the bottom or cross-bars of this machine, while it rests in a perpendicular direction against the breast of the miller. He then removes it at pleasure, without the inconveniences arising from lifting and shouldering, and the consequent exertion of bodily strength. The fulling mill is under the same roof, and its water-wheel is contiguous to that of the grist-mill; both being furnished from the same artificial pond.

Tanners' bark is pulverized and broken by a machine, which is put in operation by water. It is delivered in such a state, from the works, that it might be easily packed in casks for transportation, or an essence be extracted by chemical process.

The spring which furnishes the town, is at the foot of this hill, and inclosed within a small stone vault or cellar. It affords a redundancy of water, which is raised to the height of one hundred and twenty-five feet, by forcing pumps, which

which are in constant movement, by means of a small water-wheel supplied from the Manakasy.

The main tube, which conveys the water, is of lead, and of the diameter of four inches. It is so cold, that the hand cannot rest upon it, but a few seconds.

Near this spring is a milk-house, or room for preserving butter and fresh meats, through which issues the surplus water of the spring. It is generally used by the neighbouring families instead of an ice-house.

The brewery is a large building not far from the river and bridge. It furnishes two kinds of beer, which are purchased by the inhabitants of the neighbouring settlements.

In the wash-house, several women were industriously employed in washing and ironing clothes, for the school. The machines lately invented for expediting washing and ironing were here, and every convenience for giving ease and despatch to the labour.

The difficulty which attends this part of the business resulting from the school, causes the Inspector often to refuse taking of new pupils. Women cannot be procured in sufficient numbers to do this work, and the society is not willing to hire persons as assistants, who are not its members, and under its care and discipline.

On our return up the hill, by a new route and ascent through the gardens and fields, we called to pass a short time at the congregation-house, with the aged missionary, whom we had met

met two days before in the summer-house. He gave us farther information concerning the Indian tribes of North America. He was a deacon, and had learned a mechanic art, which he followed in his mission, that he might not be chargeable to his flock or the society; imitating the example of the Apostle in his zeal and industry. This good man informed us, that the Indians at Muskingum were orderly in their attention to religion and morality, and successful as husbandmen.

The minister or inspector favoured me with a visit and explained the nature and plan of female education, received in Bethlehem. Improving and cultivating the head and heart, are attended to as the first requisites. In due subordination to piety, and morality, reading, writing, arithmetic, drawing, embroidery and music are taught. Dancing, visiting and sleeping abroad, or having parties at the inn during the visits of friends, are not agreeable to the inspector or instructresses.

While the society of the brethren were few in number, and a combination of labours and interests were needful to make settlements, property was held in common.

The rule is now broken down, in part, and individuals may follow their private and separate business, retain a station with the brotherhood, and receive the benefits resulting from the public property and public institutions, according to known and established rules.]

Industry, enterprize and economy have the additional aid of the excellent education, the youth

youth of both sexes may obtain in Bethlehem and Nazareth, which give them advantages, far above any of the neighbouring settlements, to make them good citizens and useful colonists.

The public property arises from various sources, and they appear to be a prosperous, but not a rich people. Attention to the distant missions constantly draws forth all the pecuniary aid which the public funds afford. Each member however in a greater or lesser degree receives a benefit from the economy established by the society at large. They may adventure upon useful plans as individuals, or be retained as public servants in a variety of forms. In all cases of sickness, poverty, age or infirmity, they are sure of obtaining whatever is needful for their happiness and sustenance, in common with others.

The widows house is more immediately the object of public care. Forty are in it at present. Many of them were the wives of the ministers and missionaries. Funds are connected with this institution, which arise from deposits of a certain sum, paid annually by their late husbands, and as a fee at entering into the order of ministers.

These women are industrious, and treated with great respect. Making Bethlehem the asylum, for aged ministers, their wives, children and widows, affords an opportunity, for gaining information from every quarter, and explanations of facts and events, connected with the general welfare. It must also preserve

serve and enlarge the affectionate concern, which a christian ought to cherish towards every branch of the church. Sure of affection, confidence and support, both men and women adventure upon untried and hazardous errands to plant the gospel, and civilize the untutored. If extensive benevolence can add to human joys, these people must possess a large share of felicity, in connection with their designs and proceedings.

Seasons are appropriated to the reading of letters and reports, from every part of the world, in which they reside, in order to cultivate a general regard for every branch of their church.

These things are communicated to the whole body, and not to a few. In consequence forgetfulness on one side, or ambition on the other, may not easily pervert the concerns of religion, for sinister designs on the part of a few, or the imperiousness of an individual.

Three Bishops, belonging to this branch of the Universal Church, reside in the States, whose appointments are ratified by a synod abroad. Three assist at a consecration, as the general rule. But, upon emergencies, two or one are sufficient. To provide against the total deprivation of the episcopal office, by death or other removals, two are generally within the same country, as assistants to each other. In case of a total vacancy in the distant countries, a new Bishop must be received from Europe.

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The rite of confirmation or the laying on of hands upon renewing or ratifying the baptismal vow, previous to admission to the holy communion, is preserved.

The afternoon being pleasant, I visited the island above the bridge, in company with a single brother and an acquaintance of his from Philadelphia. The island is not large, but affords fine walks and an area for exercise, as well as seats and shelters for visitors. Tea-parties sometimes select this, for an excursion in a pleasant day. It is covered by grass, is flat, well shaded and defended by trees on the shores. The locust-tree is planted here, to assist in forming shades.

It may contain twelve acres, and is capable of receiving many improvements, which wealth and fancy might suggest and form for embellishment. The simplicity of nature is not interrupted here by any invention which could incur expence. A small school of boys with their preceptor, were on a ramble here after the hours of study. Walking appears to be the principal recreation, for all ages and both sexes. On our return to the main land, we met another party from the female school, with their tutresses, walking through the gardens and on the banks of the Lehigh.

At seven o'clock this evening, in company with several German gentlemen from Philadelphia, and attended by Mr. Thomas, we went to the devotions at the chapel.

Previous to the arrival of the minister, a voluntary was played upon the organ. While this

this was doing, the Bishop came in and took his seat under the gallery, at the head of a number of elderly men, some of whom had been missionaries. This appeared to be the only seat of distinction prepared for him and the clergy. No throne, no mitre, no velvet cushion or costly robe, designate this dignitary or his brethren. The piety of their lives, meekness of manners and condescending affability, appear to inspire that confidence and veneration, which ennoble man and exalt religion. Far removed from austerity, demureness, or pomp, they exhibit no ostentation of superior sanctity; and no disposition to gain sway, except by doing good and communicating happiness and joy, upon pious, rational and christian principles.

We were placed as strangers, on a similar seat next the wall, on the right hand of the minister.

One half of this chapel is devoted to men, and the other to women. Each choir or fraternity and sisterhood sit together. The children, both boys and girls, are placed in the seats front of their respective sexes.

The minister immediately upon reaching his seat near a table, opposite the middle aisle, gave out a psalm in German, line by line, which was sung by the whole congregation. He then read a chapter in German out of the gospel, and a second hymn was sung, accompanied also by the organ, and the assembly was dismissed with a benediction. The whole congregation stood until the minister left the chapel.

chapel. He was followed by the Bishop and other old men, and then by the congregation at large; the men passing out at one door and the women at the other. The gravity, decorum and melody in this place, are more easily imagined than described, All was free from pomp and ostentation, and far removed from silent austerity, or emotions resulting from the external appearance of sanctity.

While a traveller ought to avoid being too prolix and minute in his details, it may not be amiss to mention such events or objects as occurred and were presented to his notice, by which the various classes of readers, into whose hands his work may fall, may become acquainted with useful inventions and discoveries, whether original or not generally known. Among the variety of artists, in all countries, such present themselves to view. Bethlehem is not without them. Many are introduced from Germany, and other parts of Europe, and some are inventions of the members of this society.

In the shop of the barber, who is also a shoemaker, were glass globes filled with water. In evenings they are hung around a lamp, according to the number who want light. This increases the brightness occasioned by the lamp, the glass and water, equal almost to the light of day. These globes are used by the stocking-weavers and other mechanics, and by such as sew by night, in the sisters house.

In the public buildings and most other houses, we find German stoves made of tile,