



Moravians, make sixty-seven. In which are many eminent, learned, pious and distinguished men.

At Prague is a church called Bethlehem Church, erected purely for preaching in the Bohemian tongue, in which John Huss began to preach. One called by the same name, was built in Berlin, under the sanction and aid of the king, and other persons of rank and fortune.

Bethlehem in Pennsylvania, began to be a settlement in March 1741; about the end of that year Count Zinzendorf visited this place. A small house and stable were finished, but the congregation-house was not habitable. The festival of Christmas was therefore celebrated in the stable, which gave occasion for calling this place Bethlehem. This, with the settlement of Nazareth, have been increased by colonies from Europe, and become the seat and centre of the extensive missions and emigrations of the Brethren on this side of the Atlantic.

Assistants were sent to them from abroad, as they extended, and were enabled to find teachers for the other settlements. Great attention was paid by them, to the neighbouring Indians, who lived around them, and upon the banks of the Susquehannah. No difficulties or hardships of the wilderness discouraged or disheartened them. They conformed to the hard life of the Indians, and passed many nights successively in the woods, among snakes, bears and panthers. They learned the language,  
and

and were often exposed to violence from the intemperance of the Indians. They were not without discouragements and difficulties, which originated from the white people. So far did these outrages proceed, that representation was made to the Brethren in England. And through the influence of the proprietor of Pennsylvania and General Oglethorpe, these difficulties were removed, and the Indians' morals mended.

The rapid increase of Bethlehem and Nazareth, excited the astonishment of the public, and in one year, one thousand Indians and white people came from curiosity to see the settlements. Indian wars disturbed them, and being upon the frontiers, they were exposed to ravage and destruction.

The Brethren chiefly abode at home, and barricaded themselves, until peace took place. A very general and circumstantial view of the missions of the Brethren, is exhibited in Loskiel's history.

Having passed several agreeable days at Bethlehem, in company with a number of ladies and gentlemen, from the Bahama Islands, Carolina, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and other parts of the states, and they taking their departure, which had been protracted on account of rains which fell at that period, I visited Nazareth. It is about ten miles from Bethlehem. The intermediate country is not very fertile or pleasant. A good and well shaded road, passes through the woods and German farms. Part of the road

runs through a tract of land, which is exclusively called the Dry Land, on account of its want of any creeks, rivulets or springs above ground. It is however well settled; the inhabitants bring water for common use, from the nearest spring or brook. This is often at the distance of one, and even two and three miles. Of late however, prudent and able settlers, have begun to dig wells, whereby the value of their lands is considerably enhanced.

A good tavern is erected for the reception of travellers, as we enter this town or village of Nazareth. The day was not so far spent, but that time was afforded to visit the President or Inspector of the Pedagogium, or Nazareth school. He was occupied at the time, and a tutor became my company in a large recitation-hall, which is near the President's study and other apartments. The pupils and instructors are all stationed and boarded in this mansion. The recitation-hall is large and hung with maps, and some historic scripture paintings. At the hour for evening devotions we visited the chapel, which is formed in the lower or first story, of this building. The schools and rooms for the inhabitants being on the second and third floor.

This chapel is large and lofty, supported by four octagon pillars and furnished with seats, which hold the visitors, in the same order as in Bethlehem.

In front of the President's or minister's chair and table is a large organ within a pew, which surrounds it, and is erected for musicians. The

The service was in German. The Inspector read in the same language an account of the life and death of a distinguished lady, of the society, who had lately died in Carolina. This custom of reading papers of a public nature, preserves an affectionate regard for all parts of the society, in all countries.

Nazareth is inferior in size to Bethlehem. It consists of two streets, which cross each other, through a large square, and of the Pedagogium and sisters' house, on one side, near a second square, or large grass-plot in front of these two buildings. The public and private houses are of stone, and suitable flagged walks are on the sides of the streets, and across the court-yard in front of the Pedagogium.

The public store, steward's and brothers' houses are upon the centre square. These with neighbouring farms and the college are public property. In the centre of this square, is a small neat market-house built of stone.

Under its roof is sheltered part of the work, which conveys water to the whole town. At one end is the fire-engine.

Hills at eight and ten miles distance, beyond the Delaware and Lehigh, surround this settlement, and afford pleasing prospects. The woods, orchards, gardens, and rows of mulberry trees at the end of two streets, ornament this interesting retirement.

At a small distance is a farm called Old Nazareth, contiguous to the plantation and house begun by Mr. Whitefield. This is of stone and two stories in height. He began it,—

it,—but, a disagreement arose between him and the brethren about the doctrine of reprobation, of which he was tenacious, and he sold the land and house to the Brethren.

It had advanced to the second story and the Brethren finished it.

In front is a large grass-plot, surrounded with trees, and at a small distance remains in possession of an honest tradesman the small block or long house, erected first on the farm. The large building is occupied by widows and other families.

Across the fields at a small distance, is a cluster of houses, possessed by farmers and tradesmen. In one of the buildings is a chapel for devotions, and a dwelling for the minister, according to their very general custom.

The steward attended me to these places, after morning prayers and meeting, at which the Inspector or Principal delivered a very excellent discourse to the children and youth upon religion.

From the hall we went to the recitation-room and Inspector's study.

A considerable collection of fossils, shells and birds, who were natives of America, are to be seen with other curiosities in a museum. This in time will be large, as the missionaries are busy in collecting and sending every thing that is rare from every quarter.

The birds and some animals, were preserved by a late tutor in this house. The eagle makes a distinguished figure in this collection.

Here

Here is the American hare, a white rat, a racoon and skunk. The birds are of varied sizes. Among them is the nest and young of the humming-bird, and several species of owls.

A tutor joined us, who led us through the rooms appropriate to the different classes according to their order. In one was a young Indian from Stockbridge, who is supported by the State of Pennsylvania. He has discovered talents for limning and writing. The North American Indians have not been celebrated for their success or application in the art of painting. In the Roman Catholic chapel in New-York, is a representation of the crucifixion, a masterly performance, drawn by an Indian native of South America.

In the parlour of the Roman Catholic minister of that city, is a large representation on canvass of a missionary preaching to the Indians. The figure, attitude and perfect view of an Indian in his habit and real colour, lead us to conclude, that this must be the work of some one of their own countrymen.

In every apartment we found a piece of music, for the use of the pupils. The dormitory of this house, is in the third story or garret. It is long and lofty, with a free circulation of air in the day-time, and a lamp at night. The masters and tutors sleep in the dormitories. An invariable practice in these places, is to sleep each in a separate bed.

From the top of this house, we were entertained with picture-like views in every direction.

tion. A walk and cupola, which is finished with Venetian blinds, enabled us to survey these objects at leisure and in safety.

From thence we went to the garden which is appropriate to the scholars, a spot greatly admired.

It is upon the slope of a hill, at the foot of which is the spring from which this town is furnished with water by pipes. It is impossible to give an adequate idea by writing of this pleasing enclosure and its contents devoted to juvenile fancy, industry and study.

The strait and circular walks, the windings up the hill, the falling gardens ascended by steps, the banks, summer-houses, seats, trees, herbs, fruits, vegetables and flowers are seen in great variety.

Most of the American forest trees and many exotic plants are here. It is an elegant garden in miniature.

Undoubtedly they are indebted in part, to the plans presented by the pencils of their preceptors, who have visited the public gardens and country-seats in Europe. It is an assemblage of objects, rarely to be found in such order, taste and variety in North America.

In it youth must obtain a considerable knowledge of farming, gardening, botany and the trees which may be found and reared in this country.

The Pedagogium and town are seen from this place. In the rear is an orchard defended by a grove.

At

At about the distance of the quarter of a mile, within this wood, is a small stream, between two hills, fed by springs. The pupils have erected a dam across this rivulet and formed a place for bathing.

Two boats built for their sports are afloat in it, and seats are placed on the side of the hill. Time will enable them to form a pleasing place for recreation here, and to indulge their fancies while they preserve their health by gentle labours.

On all visits to this place, the pupils are attended by their instructors, and they do not enter the bath without clothing.

These scholars are boarded in the Pedagogium. The revenues of this house are not competent to its support, owing to the small sum charged for board and tuition.

Cooking and washing for this school, are performed in the neighbouring sisters' house. Provisions for eighty persons are dressed here. The water of the fountain is conveyed into the kitchen of this building, and to the Pedagogium.

As these settlements extend, useful and ornamental arts will be introduced from Europe.

The steward took me to the house of an ingenious German, who followed japanning and gilding. He is also a limner. His house, shop and whole tenement, were filled with specimens of his taste, and labours in the arts.

He was gilding a ball and vane for the steeple of a chapel belonging to the Brethren  
in

in Salem, North Carolina. The ball was made of copper of the diameter of about three feet. Other ornaments made of iron and copper and gilded for this edifice were preparing by him.

A site remains in one corner of the square for a brothers house, upon a more enlarged plan, than the present, which is a common dwelling two stories high. The young men are occupied in trades and on farms.

In the school many branches of literature are taught, in order to qualify the pupils for useful, honourable and literary stations.

The revenues are not competent for maintaining professors to teach all the sciences.

Many valuable men have received the rudiments of their education here. The institution is not devoted to teaching politics, as these people do not embark in war.

Disapproving of preaching against other professors of christianity, they take heed not to offend in word or deed, by rude or familiar observations.

In the afternoon, one of the tutors, a German gentleman, attended me, to Shoeneck, about a mile from Nazareth, on the road towards the Susquehannah settlements. This village consists of farmers and tradesmen who reside near a chapel and congregation-house.

The minister is the schoolmaster, he had not long since, resided in the single brethren's house at Bethlehem, in the station of clergyman, and did the business of warden several years, before he married. He had lately been fixed with this congregation

After

After his arrival from Europe in the year 1788, he had taught in the hall as a professor. The hours of study and recreation deprived us of the tutor, as he was obliged to return to the hall.

The minister shewed me the neighbouring country from the heights, and the blue hills, a range of mountains about six miles north west.

On our return to Nazareth we saw two men searching with an auger for coal. They had penetrated to the depth of twelve feet, and were flushed with sanguine expectations of success.

They were prompted to this search, by the opinion of a person, who had passed this way, not long before, and was acquainted with the coal-mines of Europe.

The steward had taken from the side of the hill, near this place, a saponaceous black earth, which he had ground and mixed with oil, and used as paint. It appears as well and as durable, as any other colour. He has by experiments altered the first appearance of black, and made samples of other colours with it.

The whole country around Nazareth is fertile, and presents entertaining objects to the eye.

It appears peculiarly calculated for the purposes of literature, to which it is devoted. The air is exceedingly salubrious, as the mountains and rivers preserve a constant circulation of that which is good.

E

The