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stored to the proprietary, and continued in his hands till the late revolution; when, being an absentee, his property in the lands was confiscated, and the government assumed by the freemen of the province, who formed the constitution now existing. At the close of the war, Henry Harford, Esq. the natural son and heir of Lord Baltimore, petitioned the legislature of Maryland for his estate; but his petition was not granted. Mr. Harford estimated his loss of quit rents, valued at twenty years purchase, and including arrears, at £.259,488 : 5 : 0—dollars at 7/6; and the value of his manors and reserved lands at £.327,441 of the same money.

VIRGINIA.

Length ^{miles.} 500	} between	{ 36° 30' and 40° N. Latitude. The merid. of Philad. and 8°. West Longitude.
Breadth 224		

BOUNDED east, by the Atlantick ocean; north, by Pennsylvania and the river Ohio; west, by Kentucky; south, by North-Carolina.

Rivers.] The principal rivers in Virginia are, *Roanoke*, *James River*, which receives the *Rivanna*, *Appamattox*, *Chickahominy*, *Nansemond* and *Elizabeth* rivers, *York River*, which is formed by the junction of *Pamunky* and *Mattapony* rivers, *Rappahannock* and *Patomak*. Of these rivers the *Patomak* demands a particular description, not only because of its size and importance to navigation, but especially on account of the noble and expensive works that are carrying on upon it under the particular direction and patronage of the illustrious President of the United States.

The distance from the Capes of Virginia to the termination of the tide water in this river is above 300 miles; and navigable for ships of the greatest burthen, nearly to that place. From thence this river, obstructed
by

by four considerable falls, extends through a vast tract of inhabited country towards its source. These falls are, 1st. the *Little Falls*, three miles above tidewater, in which distance there is a fall of 36 feet; 2d. the *Great Falls*, six miles higher, where is a fall of 76 feet in one mile and a quarter; 3d. the *Seneca Falls*, six miles above the former, which form short, irregular rapids, with a fall of about 10 feet; and 4th. the *Shenandoah Falls*, 60 miles from the *Seneca*, where is a fall of about 30 feet in three miles: From which last, *Fort Cumberland* is about 120 miles distant. The obstructions, which are opposed to the navigation above and between these falls, are of little consequence.

Early in the year 1785, the legislatures of Virginia and Maryland passed acts to encourage opening the navigation of this river. It was estimated that the expense of the works would amount to £.50,000 sterling, and ten years were allowed for their completion. At present the president and directors of the incorporated company suppose that £.45,000 will be adequate to the work, and that it will be accomplished in a shorter period than was stipulated. Their calculations are founded on the progress already made, and the summary mode lately established for enforcing the collection of the dividends, as the money may become necessary. On each share of £.100, the payment of only £.40 has yet been demanded.

According to the opinion of the president and directors, *locks* will be necessary at no more than two places, the *Great* and the *Little Falls*; six at the former, and three at the latter. At the latter nothing had yet been attempted.* At the *Great Falls*, where the difficulties were judged by many to be insurmountable, the work is nearly completed, except sinking the lock seats and inserting the frames. At the *Seneca Falls* the laborious part of the business is entirely accomplished, by removing the obstacles and making the descent more gradual;

* This account was written at the close of the year 1788, since which time the author has had no correct information of the progress made in these works.

gradual ; so that nothing remains but to finish the channel for this gentle current in a workmanlike manner. At the *Shenandoah*, where the river breaks through the Blue Ridge, though a prodigious quantity of labour has been bestowed, yet much is still to be done before the passage will be perfected. Such proficiency has been made, however, that it was expected, if the summer had not proved uncommonly rainy, and the river uncommonly high, an avenue for a partial navigation would have been opened by the first of January, 1789, from Fort Cumberland to the Great Falls, which are within nine miles of a shipping port. As it has happened, it may require a considerable part of another year for its accomplishment.

As soon as the proprietors shall begin to receive toll, they will doubtless find an ample compensation for their pecuniary advances. By an estimate made many years ago, it was calculated that the amount, in the commencement, would be at the rate of £. 11,875, Virginia currency, per annum. The toll must every year become more productive ; as the quantity of articles for exportation will be augmented in a rapid ratio, with the increase of population and the extension of settlements. In the mean time the effect will be immediately seen in the agriculture of the interior country ; for the multitude of horses now employed in carrying produce to market, will then be used altogether for the purposes of tillage. But, in order to form just conceptions of the utility of this inland navigation, it would be requisite to notice the long rivers which empty into the Patomak, and even to take a survey of the geographical position of the *Western Waters*.

The *Shenandoah*, which empties just above the Blue Mountains, may, according to report, be made navigable, at a trifling expense, more than 150 miles from its confluence with the Patomak ; and will receive and bear the produce of the richest part of the state.* The South Branch, still higher, is navigable in its actual

* Commissioners have lately been appointed to form a plan, and to estimate the expense of opening the channel of this river.

condition nearly or quite 100 miles, through exceedingly fertile lands. Between these, on the Virginia side, are several smaller rivers, that may with facility be improved, so as to afford a passage for boats. On the *Maryland* side are the Monocacy, Antietam, and Conegocheague, some of which pass through the state of Maryland, and have their sources in Pennsylvania.

From Fort Cumberland (or Wills' creek) one or two good waggon roads may be had (where the distance is said by some to be 35, and by others 40 miles) to the Yohogany, a large and navigable branch of the Monongahela; which last forms a junction with the Allegany at Fort Pitt; from whence the river takes the name of *Ohio*, until it loses its current and name in the *Mississippi*.

But, by passing farther up the Patomak than Fort Cumberland, which may very easily be done, a portage by a good waggon road to the Cheat river, another large branch of the Monongahela, can be obtained through a space which some say is 20, others 22, others 25, and none more than 30 miles.

When we have arrived at either of these western waters, the navigation through that immense region is opened in a thousand directions, and to the lakes in several places by portages of less than ten miles; and by one portage, it is asserted, of not more than a single mile.

Notwithstanding it was sneeringly said by some foreigners, at the beginning of this undertaking, that the Americans were fond of engaging in splendid projects which they could never accomplish; yet it is hoped the success of this first essay towards improving their inland navigation, will, in some degree, rescue them from the reproach intended to have been fixed upon their national character, by the unmerited imputation.

The *Great Kanaway* is a river of considerable note for the fertility of its lands, and still more, as leading towards the head waters of James river.

The *Little Kanaway* is 150 yards wide at the mouth. It yields a navigation of 10 miles only. Perhaps its northern branch, called Junius' creek, which interlocks with

with the western waters of Monongahela, may one day admit a shorter passage from the latter into the Ohio.

Mountains.] It is worthy notice, that the mountains are not solitary and scattered confusedly over the face of the country; but that they commence at about 150 miles from the sea coast, are disposed in ridges one behind another, running nearly parallel with the sea coast, though rather approaching it as they advance north-eastwardly. To the southwest, as the tract of country between the sea coast and the Mississippi becomes narrower, the mountains converge into a single ridge, which, as it approaches the Gulph of Mexico, subsides into plain country, and gives rise to some of the waters of that gulph, and particularly to a river called the Apalachicola, probably from the Apalachies, an Indian nation formerly residing on it. In the same direction generally are the veins of lime-stone, coal and other minerals, hitherto discovered; and so range the falls of the great rivers. But the courses of the great rivers are at right angles with these. James and Patomak penetrate through all the ridges of mountains eastward of the Allegany, that is broken by no water course. It is in fact the spine of the country between the Atlantick on one side, and the Mississippi and St. Lawrence on the other.

The passage of the Patomak through the Blue Ridge is perhaps one of the most stupendous scenes in nature. You stand on a very high point of land. On your right comes up the Shenandoah, having ranged along the foot of the mountain an hundred miles to seek a vent. On your left approaches the Patomak, in quest of a passage also. In the moment of their junction they rush together against the mountain, rend it asunder, and pass off to the sea. The first glance of this scene hurries our senses into the opinion, that this earth has been created in time, that the mountains were formed first, that the rivers began to flow afterwards, that in this place particularly they have been dammed up by the Blue Ridge of mountains, and have formed an ocean which filled the whole valley; that continuing

to rise they have at length broken over at this spot, and have torn the mountain down from its summit to its base. The piles of rock on each hand, but particularly on the Shenandoah, the evident marks of their disruption and avulsion from their beds by the most powerful agents of nature, corroborate the impression. But the distant finishing which nature has given to the picture is of a very different character. It is a true contrast to the foreground. It is as placid and delightful, as that is wild and tremendous. For the mountain being cloven asunder, it presents to your eye, through the cleft, a small catch of smooth blue horizon, at an infinite distance in the plain country, inviting you, as it were, from the riot and tumult roaring around, to pass through the breach, and participate of the calm below. Here the eye ultimately composes itself; and that way too the road happens actually to lead. You cross the Patomak above the junction, pass along its side through the base of the mountain for three miles, its terrible precipices hanging in fragments over you, and within about 20 miles reach Frederick town and the fine country round that. This scene is worth a voyage across the Atlantick. Yet here, as in the neighbourhood of the natural bridge, are people who have passed their lives within half a dozen miles, and have never been to survey these monuments of a war between rivers and mountains, which must have shaken the earth itself to its center.

Cascades and Caverns.] The only remarkable cascade in this country is that of the Falling Spring, in Augusta. It is a water of James river, where it is called Jackson's river, rising in the warm spring mountains about 20 miles southwest of the warm spring, and flowing into that valley. About three quarters of a mile from its source, it falls over a rock 200 feet into the valley below. The sheet of water is broken in its breadth by the rock in two or three places, but not at all in its height. Between the sheet and rock, at the bottom, you may walk across dry. This cataract will bear no comparison with that of Niagara, as to the quantity

quantity of water composing it ; the sheet being only 12 or 15 feet wide above, and somewhat more spread below ; but it is half as high again, the latter being only 156 feet.

In the lime-stone country there are many caverns of very considerable extent. The most noted is called Madison's cave, and is on the north side of the Blue Ridge, near the intersection of the Rockingham and Augusta line with the south fork of the southern river of Shenandoah. It is in a hill of about 200 feet perpendicular height, the ascent of which, on one side, is so steep, that you may pitch a biscuit from its summit into the river which washes its base. The entrance of the cave is, in this side, about two-thirds of the way up. It extends into the earth about 300 feet, branching into subordinate caverns, sometimes ascending a little, but more generally descending, and at length terminates, in two different places, at basins of water of unknown extent. The vault of this cave is of solid lime-stone, from 20 to 40 or 50 feet high, through which water is continually issuing. This, trickling down the sides of the cave, has incruited them over in the form of elegant drapery ; and dripping from the top of the vault generates on that, and on the base below, stalactites of a conical form, some of which have met and formed massive columns.

Another of these caves is near the North Mountain, in the county of Frederick, on the lands of Mr. Zane. The entrance into this is on the top of an extensive ridge. You descend 30 or 40 feet, as into a well, from whence the cave then extends, nearly horizontally, 400 feet into the earth, preserving a breadth of from 20 to 50 feet, and a height of from 5 to 12 feet.

At the Panther gap, in the ridge which divides the waters of the Cow and the Calf pasture, is what is called the *Blowing Cave*. It is in the side of a hill, is of about 100 feet diameter, and emits constantly a current of air of such force, as to keep the weeds prostrate to the distance of twenty yards before it. This current is strongest in dry frosty weather, and in long spells of rain weakest.

There

There is another blowing cave in the Cumberland mountain, about a mile from where it crosses the Carolina line. All we know of this is, that it is not constant, and that a fountain of water issues from it.

The *Natural Bridge*, the most sublime of nature's works, though not comprehended under the present head, must not be omitted. It is on the ascent of a hill, which seems to have been cloven through its length by some great convulsion. The fissure, just at the bridge, is, by some admeasurements, 270 feet deep, by others only 205. It is about 45 feet wide at the bottom, and 90 feet at the top; this of course determines the length of the bridge, and its height from the water. Its breadth in the middle is about 60 feet, but more at the ends, and the thickness of the mass at the summit of the arch, about 40 feet. A part of this thickness is constituted by a coat of earth, which gives growth to many large trees. The residue, with the hill on both sides, is one solid rock of lime-stone. The arch approaches the semielliptical form; but the larger axis of the ellipsis, which would be the cord of the arch, is many times longer than the transverse. Though the sides of this bridge are provided in some parts with a parapet of fixed rocks, yet few men have resolution to walk to them and look over into the abyss. You involuntarily fall on your hands and feet, creep to the parapet and peep over it. Looking down from this height about a minute, gave me a violent head-ach. If the view from the top be painful and intolerable, that from below is delightful in an equal extreme. It is impossible for the emotions arising from the sublime, to be felt beyond what they are here; so beautiful an arch, so elevated, so light, and springing as it were up to Heaven, the rapture of the spectator is really indescribable! The fissure continuing narrow, deep, and straight for a considerable distance above and below the bridge, opens a short but very pleasing view of the North Mountain on one side, and Blue Ridge on the other, at the distance each of them of about five miles. This bridge is in the county of Rockbridge, to which it has given name, and
affords

affords a publick and commodious passage over a valley, which cannot be crossed elsewhere for a considerable distance. The stream passing under it is called Cedar creek. It is a water of James river, and sufficient in the driest seasons to turn a grist-mill, though its fountain is not more than two miles above. There is a natural bridge, similar to the one above described, over Stock creek, a branch of Peleson river, in Washington county.

Medicinal Springs.] There are several medicinal springs, some of which are indubitably efficacious, while others seem to owe their reputation as much to fancy, and change of air and regimen, as to their real virtues. The most efficacious of these are two springs in Augusta, near the first sources of James river. The one is distinguished by the name of the Warm Spring, and the other of the Hot Spring. The Warm Spring issues with a very bold stream, sufficient to work a grist-mill, and to keep the waters of its basin, which is 30 feet in diameter, at the vital warmth, viz. 96° of Farenheit's thermometer. The matter with which these waters is allied is very volatile; its smell indicates it to be sulphureous, as also does the circumstance of turning silver black. They relieve rheumatisms. Other complaints also of very different natures have been removed or lessened by them. It rains here four or five days in every week.

The *Hot Spring* is about six miles from the Warm, is much smaller, and has been so hot as to have boiled an egg. Some believe its degree of heat to be lessened. It raises the mercury in Farenheit's thermometer to 112 degrees, which is fever heat. It sometimes relieves where the Warm Spring fails. A fountain of common water, issuing within a few inches of its margin, gives it a singular appearance. These springs are very much resorted to in spite of a total want of accommodation for the sick. Their waters are strongest in the hottest months, which occasions their being visited in July and August principally.

The

The sweet springs are in the county of Botetourt, at the eastern foot of the Allegany, about 42 miles from the warm springs. They are still less known. Having been found to relieve cases in which the others had been ineffectually tried, it is probable their composition is different. They are different also in their temperature, being as cold as common water.

In the low grounds of the Great Kanaway, 7 miles above the mouth of Elk River, and 67 above that of the Kanaway itself, is a hole in the earth of the capacity of 30 or 40 gallons, from which issues constantly a bituminous vapour in so strong a current, as to give to the sand about its orifice the motion which it has in a boiling spring. On presenting a lighted candle or torch within 18 inches of the hole, it flames up in a column of 18 inches diameter, and four or five feet in height, which sometimes burns out within 20 minutes, and at other times has been known to continue three days, and then has been left still burning. The flame is unsteady, of the density of that of burning spirits, and smells like burning pit-coal. Water sometimes collects in the basin, which is remarkably cold, and is kept in ebullition by the vapour issuing through it. If the vapour be fired in that state, the water soon becomes so warm that the hand cannot bear it, and evaporates wholly in a short time. This, with the circumjacent lands, is the property of his Excellency President Washington and of General Lewis.

There is a similar one on Sandy river, the flame of which is a column of about 12 inches diameter, and 3 feet high. General Clarke kindled the vapour, staid about an hour, and left it burning.

Population and Militia.] The number of free inhabitants in this state in 1782 was 296,852--slaves 270,762. The number of free inhabitants were to the number of slaves nearly as 11 to 10. According to the census taken in 1790, Virginia contained 747,610 inhabitants—and Kentucky 73,677. The following is a state of the militia, taken from returns of 1780 and 1781, except in those counties marked with an asterisk, the returns of which are somewhat older. Situation.

Situation.	Counties.	Militia.	Situation.	Counties.	Militia.	
Westward of the Alleghany. 4458.	Lincoln Jefferson Fayette Ohio Monongalia Washington Montgomery Green Briar	600 300 156 *1000 *829 1071 502	Between James river and Carolina. 6050.	Greeneville Dinwiddie Chesterfield Prince George Surrey Suffex Southampton Isle of Wight Nansemond Norfolk Princess Anne	500 *750 655 382 380 *700 874 *600 *644 *880 *594	
Between the Alleghany & Blue Ridge. 7671.	Hampshire Berkley Frederick Shenando Rockingham Augusta Rockbridge Botetourt	930 *1100 1142 *925 875 1375 *625 *700	Between James & York rivers. 3009.	Henrico Hanover New-Kent Charles City James City Williamsburg York Warwick Elizabeth City	610 796 *418 286 235 129 *244 *100 182	
Between the Blue Ridge and Tide Waters. 18,828.	Loudoun Fauquier Culpepper Spotsylvania Orange Louisa Goochland Fluvanna Albemarle Amherst Buckingham Bedford Henry Pittsylvania Halifax Charlotte Prin. Edward Cumberland Powhatan Amelia Lunenburg Mecklenburg Brunswick	1746 1078 1513 480 *600 603 *550 *296 873 896 *625 1300 1004 *725 *1139 612 589 408 330 *1125 677 1100 559	ON THE TIDE WATERS, AND IN THAT PARALLEL. 19,012.	Between York & Rappahan-nock. 3260. Between Rappa-hannock & Pato-mak. 4137. East shore 1638	Caroline King William King & Queen Essex Middlesex Gloucester Fairfax Prin. William Stafford King George Richmond Westmoreland Northumberl. Lancaster Accomack Northampton	805 436 500 468 *210 850 652 614 *500 483 412 544 630 302 *1208 *430
Total Militia 49,971.						

Climate.] In an extensive country, it will be expected that the climate is not the same in all its parts. It is remarkable that, proceeding on the same parallel of latitude westwardly, the climate becomes colder in like manner as when you proceed northwardly. This continues to be the case till you attain the summit of the Allegany, which is the highest land between the
O ocean

ocean and the Mississippi. From thence, descending in the same latitude to the Mississippi, the change reverses; and, if we may believe travellers, it becomes warmer there than it is in the same latitude on the sea side. Their testimony is strengthened by the vegetables and animals which subsist and multiply there naturally, and do not on our sea coast. Thus catalpas grow spontaneously on the Mississippi, as far as the latitude of 37° , and reeds as far as 38° . Perroquets even winter on the Sioto, in the 39^{th} degree of latitude. In the summer of 1779, when the thermometer was at 90° at Monticello, and 96° at Williamsburg, it was 110° at Kaskaskia. Perhaps the mountain, which overhangs this village on the north side, may, by its reflection, have contributed somewhat to produce this heat.

Civil Divisions.] The counties have already been enumerated. They are 74 in number, of very unequal size and population. Of these 35 are on the Tide Waters, or in that parallel; 23 are in the Midlands, between the Tide Waters and Blue Ridge of mountains; 8 between the Blue Ridge and Allegany; and 8 wellward of the Allegany.*

The state, by another division, is formed into parishes, many of which are as large as the counties; but sometimes a county comprehends more than one parish, and sometimes a parish more than one county. This division had relation to the religion of the state, a Parson of the Episcopal church, with a fixed salary, having been heretofore established in each parish. The care of the poor was another object of the parochial division.

There are no townships in the state, nor any towns of consequence. Williamsburgh, which, till the year 1780, was the seat of government, never contained above 1800 inhabitants; and Norfolk, the most populous town ever known in this state, contained but 6000. The towns, but more properly villages or hamlets, are as follow.

On *James River* and its waters, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Hampton, Suffolk, Smithfield, Williamsburg, Petersburg,

* In these last eight counties Kentucky is included, which, from the above statement, has been erected into a separate state.

burg, Richmond, the seat of government, Manchester. Charlottesville, New-London.

On *York River* and its waters, York, Newcastle, Hanover.

On *Rappahannock*, Urbanna, Port Royal, Fredericksburg, Falmouth.

On *Patomak* and its waters, Dumfries, Colchester, Alexandria, Winchester, Staunton.

There are other places at which, like some of the forgoing, the *laws* have said there shall be towns; but *nature* has said there shall not be, and they remain unworthy of enumeration. *Norfolk* will probably be the emporium for all the trade of the Chesapeake Bay and its waters; and a canal of 8 or 10 miles will bring it to all that of Albemarle sound and its waters. Secondary to this place, are the towns at the head of the Tide Waters, to wit, Petersburg on Appamattox, Richmond on James River, Newcastle on York River, and Alexandria on Patomak. From these the distribution will be to subordinate situations of the country. Accidental circumstances, however, may control the indications of nature, and in no instances do they do it more frequently than in the rise and fall of towns.

To the foregoing general account, we add the following more particular descriptions.

ALEXANDRIA stands on the south bank of Patomak river. Its situation is elevated and pleasant. The soil is clay; and the water bad. The original settlers, anticipating its future growth and importance, laid out the streets upon the plan of Philadelphia. It contains upwards of 300 houses, many of which are handsomely built. This town, upon the opening of the navigation of Patomak river, and from its vicinity to the seat of the Federal Government, will probably be one of the most thriving commercial places on the continent.

MOUNT VERNON, the celebrated seat of General WASHINGTON, is pleasantly situated on the Virginia bank of the river Patomak, where it is nearly two miles wide, and is about 280 miles from the sea, and 127 from the mouth of the river. It is 9 miles below Alexandria,

and

and 4 above the beautiful seat of the late Col. Fairfax, called Bellevoir. The area of the mount is 200 feet above the surface of the river, and, after furnishing a lawn of five acres in front, and about the same in rear of the buildings, falls off rather abruptly on those two quarters. On the north end it subsides gradually into extensive pasture grounds; while on the south it slopes more steeply, in a shorter distance, and terminates with the coach-house, stables, vineyard and nurseries. On either wing is a thick grove of different, flowering forest trees. Parallel with them, on the land side, are two spacious gardens, into which one is led by two serpentine gravel walks, planted with weeping willows and shady shrubs. The *Mansion House* itself (though much embellished by, yet not perfectly satisfactory to the chaste taste of the present possessor) appears venerable and convenient. The superb banquetting room has been finished since he returned home from the army. A lofty portico, 96 feet in length, supported by eight pillars, has a pleasing effect when viewed from the water; and the whole assemblage, of the green house, school house, offices and servants' halls, when seen from the land side, bears a resemblance to a rural village—especially as the lands in that side are laid out somewhat in the form of English gardens, in meadows and grass grounds, ornamented with little copses, circular clumps and single trees. A small park on the margin of the river, where the English fallow deer, and the American wild deer are seen through the thickets, alternately with the vessels as they are sailing along, add a romantick and picturesque appearance to the whole scenery. On the opposite side of a small creek to the northward, an extensive plain, exhibiting cornfields and cattle grazing, affords in summer a luxuriant landscape; while the blended verdure of woodlands and cultivated declivities on the Maryland shore variegates the prospect in a charming manner. Such are the philosophick shades to which the Commander in Chief of the American Armies retired from the tumultuous scenes of war—and which he has again left to preside over that large
and

and happy people, which, under Providence, he has conducted to freedom, and national glory.

FREDERICKSBURG is situated on the south side of Rappahannock river, 110 miles from its mouth ; and contains about 200 houses, principally on one street, which runs nearly parallel with the river.

RICHMOND, the present seat of government, stands on the north side of James river, just at the foot of the falls, and contains about 300 houses ; part of which are built upon the margin of the river, convenient for business ; the rest are upon a hill which overlooks the lower part of the town, and commands an extensive prospect of the river and adjacent country. The new houses are well built. A large and elegant state-house or capitol, has lately been erected on the hill. The lower part of the town is divided by a creek, over which is a bridge, which, for Virginia, is elegant. A handsome and expensive bridge, between 3 and 400 yards in length, constructed on boats, has lately been thrown across James river, at the foot of the falls, by Col. John Mayo, a wealthy and respectable planter, whose seat is about a mile from Richmond. This bridge connects Richmond with Manchester ; and as the passengers pay toll, it produces a handsome revenue to Col. Mayo, who is the sole proprietor.

The falls, above the bridge, are 7 miles in length. A canal has lately been cut on the north side of the river, by a company, at a considerable expense.

PETERSBURG, 25 miles southward of Richmond, stands on the south side of Appamattox river, and contains nearly 300 houses, in two divisions ; one is upon a clay, cold soil, and is very dirty—the other upon a plain of sand or loam. There is no regularity, and very little elegance in Petersburg. It is merely a place of business, and is very unhealthy. About 2200 hog-heads of tobacco are inspected here annually. The celebrated Indian Queen, Pocahonta, from whom descended the Randolph and Bowling families, formerly resided at this place.

WILLIAMSBURG is 60 miles eastward of Richmond,

situated between two creeks ; one falling into James, the other into York river. It consists of about 200 houses, going fast to decay, and not more than 900 or 1000 souls. It is regularly laid out in parallel streets, with a square in the center, through which runs the principal street, E. and W. about a mile in length, and more than a 100 feet wide. At the ends of this street are two publick buildings, the college and capitol. Besides these there is an Episcopal church, a prison, a hospital for lunatics, and the palace ; all of them extremely indifferent. In the capitol is a large marble statue, in the likeness of Narbone Berkley, Lord Botetourt, a man distinguished for his love of piety, literature and good government, and formerly Governor of Virginia. It was erected at the expense of the state, since the year 1771. The capitol is little better than in ruins, and this elegant statue is exposed to the rudeness of negroes and boys, and is shamefully defaced.

Every thing in Williamsburg appears dull, forsaken and melancholy—no trade—no amusements, but the infamous one of gaming—no industry, and very little appearance of religion. The unprosperous state of the college, but principally the removal of the seat of government, have contributed much to the decline of this city.

YORKTOWN, 13 miles eastward from Williamsburg, is a place of about 100 houses, situated on the south side of York river. It was rendered famous by the capture of Lord Cornwallis and his army, on the 19th of October, 1781, by the united forces of France and America.

Colleges, Academies, &c] The college of William and Mary is the only publick seminary of learning in this state. It was founded in the time of King William and Queen Mary, who granted to it 20,000 acres of land, and a penny a pound duty on certain tobaccoes exported from Virginia and Maryland. The assembly also gave it, by temporary laws, a duty on liquors imported, and skins and furs exported. From these resources it received upwards of £.3000 *communibus annis.*

arts. The buildings are of brick, sufficient for an indifferent accommodation of perhaps 100 students. By its charter it was to be under the government of 20 visitors, who were to be its legislators, and to have a president and six professorships, which at present stand thus :—A professorship for law and police—anatomy and medicine—natural philosophy and mathematicks—moral philosophy, the law of nature and nations, the fine arts—modern languages—For the Brafferton.

The college edifice is a huge, misshapen pile, 'which, but that it has a roof, would be taken for a brick kiln.' In 1787, there were about 30 young gentlemen members of this college, a large proportion of which were law students.

There are a number of flourishing academies in Virginia—one in Prince Edward county—one at Alexandria—one at Norfolk—one at Hanover, and others in other places.

Religion.] The first settlers in this country were emigrants from England, of the English church, just at a point of time when it was flushed with complete victory over the religions of all other persuasions. Possessed, as they became, of the powers of making, administering, and executing the laws, they shewed equal intolerance in this country with their Presbyterian brethren, who had emigrated to the northern government. The poor Quakers were flying from persecution in England. They cast their eyes on these new countries, as asylums of civil and religious freedom ; but they found them free only for the reigning sect. Several acts of the Virginia assembly of 1659, 1662, and 1693, had made it penal in parents to refuse to have their children baptized ; had prohibited the unlawful assembling of Quakers ; had made it penal for any master of a vessel to bring a Quaker into the state ; had ordered those already here, and such as should come thereafter, to be imprisoned till they should abjure the country ; provided a milder punishment for their first and second return, but death for their third ; had inhibited all persons from suffering their meetings in or
near

near their houses, entertaining them individually, or disposing of books which supported their tenets. If no capital execution took place here, as did in New-England, it was not owing to the moderation of the church, or spirit of the legislature, as may be inferred from the law itself; but to historical circumstances which have not been handed down to us. The Anglicans retained full possession of the country about a century. Other opinions began then to creep in, and the great care of the government to support their own church, having begotten an equal degree of indolence in its clergy, two-thirds of the people had become dissenters at the commencement of the present revolution. The laws indeed were still oppressive on them, but the spirit of the one party had subsided into moderation, and of the other had risen to a degree of determination which commanded respect.

The present denominations of Christians in Virginia are, Presbyterians, who are the most numerous, and inhabit the western parts of the state; Episcopalians, who are the most ancient settlers, and occupy the eastern and first settled parts of the state. Intermingled with these are great numbers of Baptists and Methodists. The bulk of these last mentioned religious sects are of the poorer sort of people, and many of them are very ignorant, (as is indeed the case with the other denominations) but they are generally a moral, well-meaning set of people. They exhibit much zeal in their worship, which appears to be composed of the mingled effusions of piety, enthusiasm and superstition.

Character, Manners and Customs.] Virginia has produced some of the most distinguished and influential men that have been active in effecting the two late grand and important revolutions in America. Her political and military character will rank among the first in the page of history. But it is to be observed that this character has been obtained for the Virginians by a few eminent men who have taken the lead in all their publick transactions, and who, in short, govern Virginia; for the great body of the people do not con-

cern themselves with politicks—so that their government, though nominally republican, is, in fact, oligarchal or aristocratical.

The Virginians, who are rich, are in general sensible, polite and hospitable, and of an independent spirit. The poor are ignorant and abject—and all are of an inquisitive turn, and in many other respects, very much resemble the people in the eastern states. They differ from them, however, in their morals; the former being much addicted to gaming, drinking, swearing, horse-racing, cock-fighting, and most kinds of dissipation. There is a much greater disparity between the rich and the poor, in Virginia, than in any of the northern states.

A spirit for literary inquiries, if not altogether confined to a few, is, among the body of the people, evidently subordinate to a spirit of gaming and barbarous sports. At almost every tavern or ordinary, on the publick road, there is a billiard table, a backgammon table, cards, and other implements for various games. To these publick houses the gambling gentry in the neighbourhood resort to *kill time*, which hangs heavily upon them; and at this business they are extremely expert, having been accustomed to it from their earliest youth. The passion for cock-fighting, a diversion not only inhumanly barbarous, but infinitely beneath the dignity of a man of sense, is so predominant that they even advertise their matches in the publick newspapers. This dissipation of manners is the fruit of indolence and luxury, which are the fruit of the African slavery.

Constitution, Courts and Laws.] The executive power is lodged in the hands of a Governor, chosen annually, and incapable of acting more than three years in seven. He is assisted by a council of eight members. The judiciary powers are divided among several courts. Legislation is exercised by two houses of assembly, the one called the House of Delegates, composed of two members from each county, chosen annually by the citizens possessing an estate for life in 100 acres of uninhabited

inhabited land, or 25 acres with a house on it, or in a house or lot in some town: The other called the Senate, consisting of 24 members, chosen quadrennially by the same electors, who for this purpose are distributed into 24 districts. The concurrence of both houses is necessary to the passing of a law. They have the appointment of the Governor and Council, the Judges of the superior courts, Auditors, Attorney-General, Treasurer, Register of the land-office, and Delegates to Congress.

In October, 1786, an act was passed by the assembly prohibiting the importation of slaves into the commonwealth, upon penalty of the forfeiture of the sum of £.1000 for every slave. And every slave imported contrary to the true intent and meaning of this act, becomes free.

Commerce.] Before the present war was exported from this state, *communibus annis*, nearly as follows:

Articles.	Quantity.
Tobacco,	55,000 hhds. of 1000lb.
Wheat,	800,000 bushels.
Indian corn,	600,000 bushels.
Shipping,	
Masts, planks, skantling, shingles, staves,	
Tar, pitch, turpentine,	70,000 barrels.
Peltry, viz. skins of deer, beavers, otters, } muskrats, racoons, foxes, }	180 hhds. of 600lb.
Pork,	4,000 barrels.
Flax-seed, hemp, cotton,	
Pit-coal, pig-iron,	
Pease,	5,000 bushels.
Beef,	1,000 barrels.
Sturgeon, white shad, herring,	
Brandy from peaches and apples, whisky,	
Horses.	
The amount of the above articles is £.850,000, Virginia money, or 607,142 guineas.	

History.] In the year 1584, two patents were granted by Queen Elizabeth, one to Adrain Gilbert, (Feb. 6) the other to Sir Walter Raleigh, for lands not possessed by any Christian prince. By the direction of Sir Walter, two ships were fitted and sent out, under the command of Philip Amidas, and Arthur Barlow.

Barlow. In July they arrived on the coast, and anchored in a harbour seven leagues west of the Roanoke. On the 13th of July, they, in a formal manner, took possession of the country, and, in honour of their virgin Queen Elizabeth, they called it *Virginia*. Till this time the country was known by the general name of *Florida*. After this VIRGINIA became the common name for all North-America.

In the year 1587, *Manteo* was baptized in Virginia. He was the first native Indian who received that ordinance in that part of America. On the 18th of August, Mrs. Dare was delivered of a daughter, whom she called VIRGINIA. She was the first English child that was born in North-America.

In the spring of the year 1606, James I. by patent, divided Virginia into two colonies. The *southern* included all lands between the 34th and 41st degrees of north latitude. This was stiled the *first colony*, under the name of South-Virginia, and was granted to the London Company. The *northern*, called the *second colony*, and known by the general name of North-Virginia, included all lands between the 38th and 45th degrees north latitude, and was granted to the Plymouth Company. Each of these colonies had a council of thirteen men to govern them. To prevent disputes about territory, the colonies were prohibited to plant within an hundred miles of each other. There appears to be an inconsistency in these grants, as the lands lying between the 38th and 41st degrees are covered by both patents.

Both the London and Plymouth companies attempted settlements within the limits of their respective grants, but with ill success, for no effectual settlements were made by the former till 1610, and by the latter not till 1620. Lord Delaware, in 1610, came over to Virginia with a fresh supply of settlers and provisions, which revived the drooping spirits of the former company, and gave permanency and respectability to the settlement.

In April, 1613, Mr. John Rolfe, a worthy young gentleman,

gentleman, was married to *Pocahontas*, the daughter of *Powhatan*, the famous Indian chief. This connexion, which was very agreeable both to the English and Indians, was the foundation of a friendly and advantageous commerce between them.

In 1616, Mr. Rolfe, with his wife Pocahontas, visited England, where she was treated with that attention and respect which she had merited by her important services to the colony in Virginia. She died the year following at Gravesend, in the 22d year of her age, just as she was about to embark for America. She had embraced the Christian religion; and in her life and death evidenced the sincerity of her profession. She left a little son, who, having received his education in England, came over to Virginia, where he lived and died in affluence and honour, leaving behind him an only daughter. Her descendants are among the most respectable families in Virginia.

Tomocomo, a sensible Indian, brother in law to Pocahontas, accompanied her to England; and was directed by Powhatan to bring him an exact account of the numbers and strength of the English. For this purpose, when he arrived at Plymouth, he took a long stick, intending to cut a notch in it for every person he should see. This he soon found impracticable, and threw away his stick. On his return, being asked by Powhatan, how many people there were, he is said to have replied, "Count the stars in the sky, the leaves on the trees, and the sands on the sea shore; for such is the number of the people in England."

In 1650, the parliament, considering itself as standing in the place of their deposed King, and as having succeeded to all its powers, without as well as within the realm, began to assume a right over the colonies, passing an act for inhibiting their trade with foreign nations. This succession to the exercise of the kingly authority gave the first colour for parliamentary interference with the colonies, and produced that fatal precedent which they continued to follow after they had retired, in other prospects, within their proper functions.

When

When this colony, therefore, which still maintained its opposition to Cromwell and the parliament, was induced, in 1651, to lay down their arms, they previously secured their most essential rights, by a solemn convention.

This convention, entered into with arms in their hands, they supposed had secured the ancient limits of their country, its free trade, its exemption from taxation, but by their own assembly, and exclusion of military force from among them. Yet in every of these points was this convention violated by subsequent kings and parliaments, and other infractions of their constitution, equally dangerous, committed. Their general assembly, which was composed of the council of state and burgesses, sitting together and deciding by plurality of voices, was split into two houses, by which the council obtained a separate negative on their laws. Appeals from their supreme court, which had been fixed by law in their general assembly, were arbitrarily revoked to England, to be there heard before the king and council. Instead of 400 miles on the sea coast, they were reduced, in the space of 30 years, to about 100 miles. Their trade with foreigners was totally suppressed, and when carried to Great-Britain, was there loaded with imposts. It is unnecessary, however, to glean up the several instances of injury, as scattered through American and British history, and the more especially as, by passing on to the accession of the present king, we shall find specimens of them all, aggravated, multiplied, and crowded within a small compass of time, so as to evince a fixed design of considering our rights, natural, conventional and chartered, as mere nullities. The following is an epitome of the first fifteen years of his reign. The colonies were taxed internally and externally; their essential interests sacrificed to individuals in Great-Britain; their legislatures suspended; charters annulled; trials by juries taken away; their persons subjected to transportation across the Atlantick, and to trial before foreign judicatories; their supplications for redress thought beneath answer; themselves published as cowards in the councils of their mother country and courts