

37
VIEWS

OF

AMERICAN SCENERY.

EACH VIEW ACCOMPANIED BY A FULL AND VERY
ACCURATE DESCRIPTION.

PUBLISHED BY

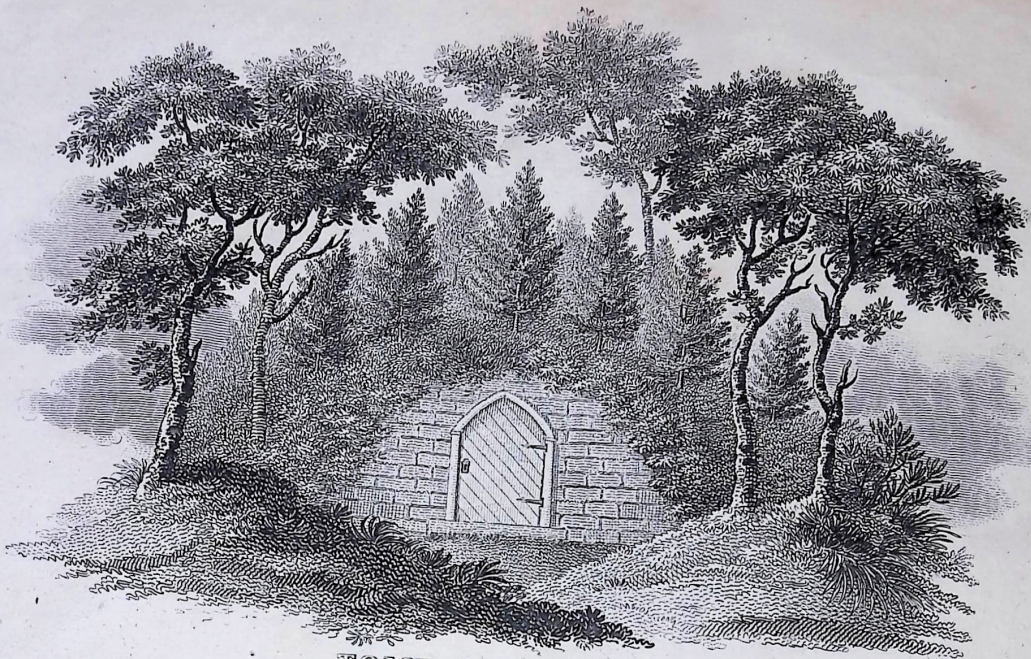
THOMAS K. GREENBANK,

NO. 64, SPRUCE STREET,

PHILADELPHIA.

1828.

Single Copies, price One Dollar.



TOMB of WASHINGTON

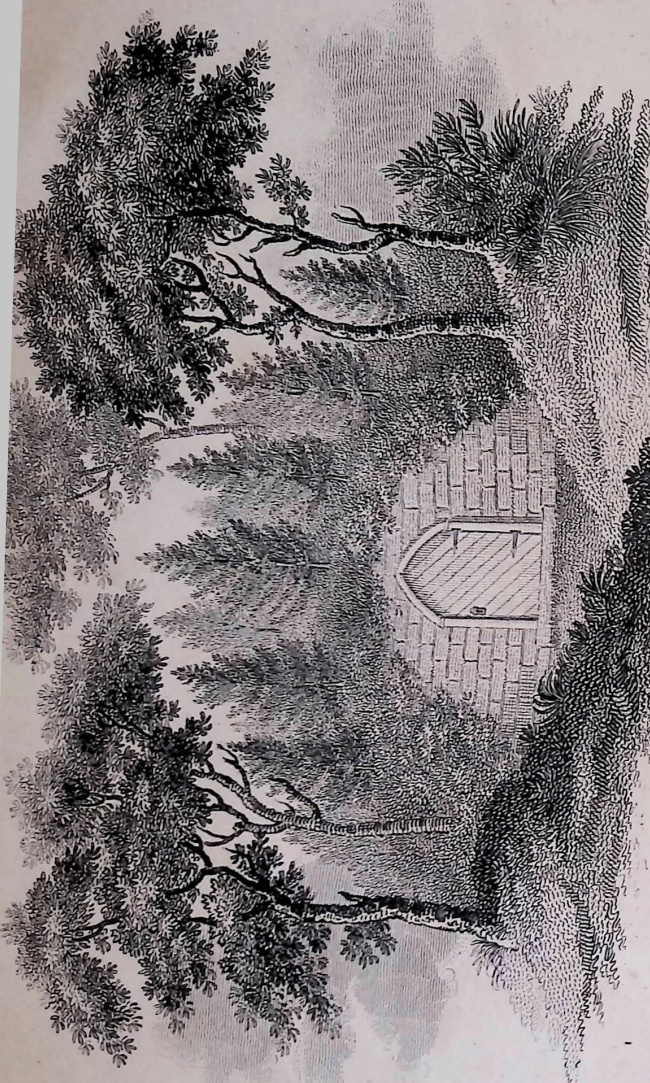
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Mount Vernon, the late residence of General WASHINGTON, is situated on the south side of the Potomac, in Fairfax County, Virginia, where the river is nearly two miles wide. The Mansion House is situated on a point nearly two hundred feet above the level of the river, affording a fine view of the surrounding country.

This sacred spot, hallowed by the remembrance of its being the residence and burial place of the Father of his Country, and which has been watered by the grateful and affectionate tears of Lafayette, is frequently visited by Americans, all anxious to shed one tear at least upon the urn of WASHINGTON.

The view before us is from a drawing made upon the spot, and is an accurate representation of the sacred enclosure wherein repose the ashes of our immortal WASHINGTON.



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IT INCLUDES TWO PLATES ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN

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VOL. II 1809

PAGES 443 AND 540, DRAWN BY JACOB CIST, HOW-

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Goodspeeds Catalogue
April 1954
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The above is the wrapper title; there was no separate title-page. The views are as follows (engravers, where named, given in parenthesis):

1. Tomb of Washington.
2. Characteristic Scenery of the Hudson River (J. Yeager).
3. Catskill Mts. & the Steam Boat (Hewitt).
4. Mitchel Light-House on Sands' Point in Long Island Sound (Leney).
5. View of Lemon Hill, the Seat of Henry Pratt (J. Exilius).
6. Upper Falls of Solomon's Creek (Yeager).
7. Lower Falls of [same] (Yeager).
8. York, on Lake Ontario.
9. New London from Manwaring's Hill.
10. Great Bend of the Susquehanna River, in Susquehanna County, Penn. (Yeager).
11. View of Fort Niagara (Indecipherable).
12. N.W. View of Mr. Paul Beck's Shot Tower near the Schuylkill (after Thos. Birch).

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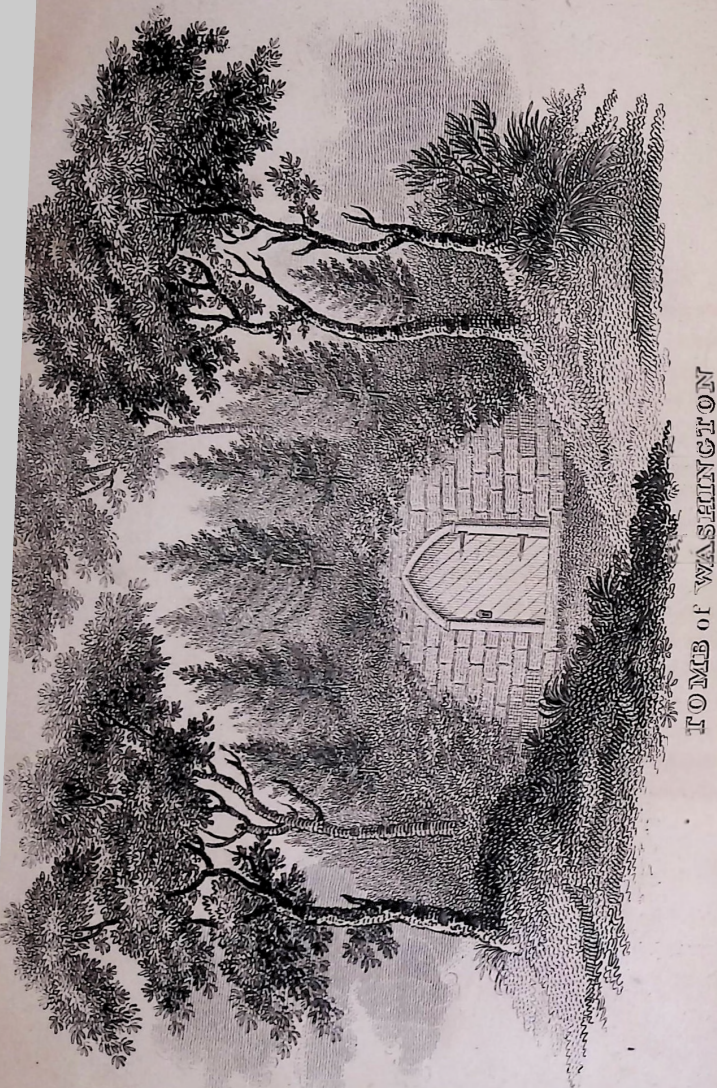
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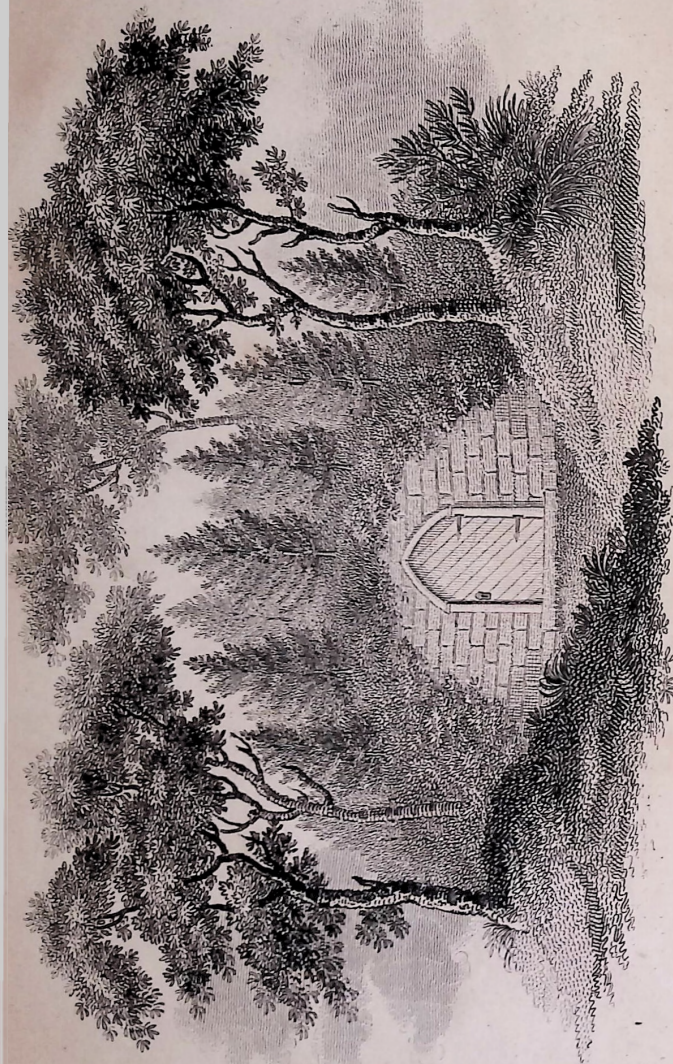
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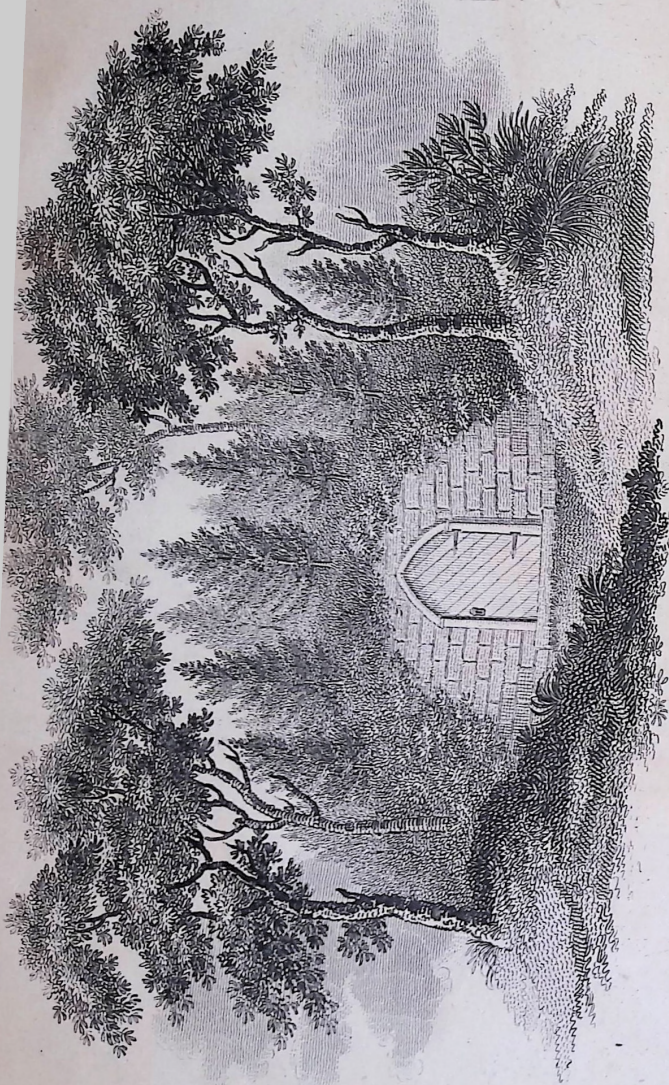
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Engraved by J. T. Smith

CHARACTERISTIC SCENERY of the HUDSON RIVER.

SCENERY ON THE HUDSON.

The continent of North America has been distinguished by all travellers, for the sublimity of its scenery, and for its natural curiosities. Although poets have not sung the beauties of her rivers—the grandeur of her mountain scenery—or the fertility of her peaceful vales—yet ample homage has been paid to all by the intelligent foreign traveller.

Next to the stupendous cataract of Niagara, the grandest object of Nature in her frolic mood—the views upon the river Hudson have long been celebrated. The spot represented in the engraving is one of the numerous landing places which the sudden impetus given to business by the Clinton Canal, has caused to start up with unexampled rapidity and frequency. The view is taken from the foot of a high bluff, which rises abruptly from the river, around which a laborious road has been patiently cut to the store-house on the projecting point below. The settlement itself is one of the many minor stopping places for the innumerable shallow craft which fly upon the river, each of which leaving a little cash behind, and taking off a portion of the produce of the adjoining country, has caused the formerly barren spot to wear a little the appearance of a business place—

“Where river sailors, in their passage down,
A moment pause, in grog their cares to drown.”

This view, however, should not be considered either a correct or favourable representation of the beauties of Hudson river scenery. The lofty Catskill Mountains—

“Their high tops peering o’er impending clouds,”

are lost in the distance. Neither do we behold the abrupt and rocky bluffs that designate West Point as a scene of uncommon grandeur. But still, in the long level here presented to the eye, something may be seen of that romantic beauty which seems the peculiar characteristic of the Hudson scenery. A bold and lofty shore is not indispensable to constitute a romantic scene. The calm bosom of the river, in its devious windings, sometimes chances to present a scene like this, where, amid embowering borders, the mind can as readily perceive the presence of the beautiful and the romantic. The river craft, becalmed in their adventurous peregrinations to some neighbouring settlement, are here seen to flap their idle sails upon the mast, their crews dozing away the hours with an indifference to the glory of the scenes around them, and as careless as the renowned and undaunted sages of the far-famed and ever to be remembered Communiaw.

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Sketch by J. Glennie Esq.

Hewitt Sc.

Catskill Mountains and the Steam Boat on the Hudson River.

THE CATSKILL MOUNTAINS.

TURNING from the contemplation of another scene upon the mighty Hudson, distinguished for its quiet calmness, we here have a more lively view presented to us, on the same noble river.

The view here represented is one of many which occur at every bend of the Hudson. The reader may have paused to contemplate them in his pleasure trip on the Steam Boat. In the distance, the CATSKILL MOUNTAINS are to be seen lifting their gigantic heads in proud defiance to the skies, and perpetually invading the territory of the clouds. The shadows cast by one upon another are accurately delineated, as they appear by the reflection of the sun in one particular position.

On the bosom of the placid river is seen the Steam Boat—that wonderful invention of American ingenuity: and although New York derives a vast amount of benefit from the improvement, yet to Pennsylvania belongs the honor of giving birth to, and fostering the man who has conferred such innumerable benefits upon his countrymen, as did the unfortunate Fulton by the Steam Engine. The river is navigable for ships, up to the village of Hudson, a distance of one hundred and thirty miles, and for sloops, to Albany, near the head of tide, a distance of one hundred and sixty miles from New York.

This immense river, fringed, on both sides, with scenery of the most romantic and enchanting character, is now crowded with Steam Boats constantly conveying passengers from one part of the country to another, and giving life and animation to a scene which, only a few years ago, was traversed by a few solitary shallops and schooners.

The CATSKILL MOUNTAINS are a range of lofty hills proceeding from the highlands, in a northerly direction, through the counties of Greene and Ulster. They are the highest land in the state. Captain PARTRIDGE, by accurate measurement, has ascertained the height of the Round Top, the highest peak, to be 3,804 feet above the level of the sea; and High Peak, the next highest, to be 3,718 feet above the level of the sea. Pine Orchard, situated on one of the most elevated parts of the CATSKILL MOUNTAINS, is a delightful resort for pleasure parties during the summer. Extensive accommodations have been erected for the reception of visitors, and to so great an extent have the facilities for travelling increased, within a very few years past, that this healthful and romantic public accommodation is constantly thronged with company from all parts of the union, either in search of health, or pleasure.



Engraved by J. G. Thompson

Catskill Mountains and the Hudson River

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THE CATTARAUGUS MOUNTAINS

THE CATTARAUGUS MOUNTAINS are situated in the western part of the State of New York, and are one of the most beautiful and fertile regions of the Empire. The mountains are composed of a soft sandstone, which has been eroded into a series of rounded hills and valleys. The soil is rich and fertile, and the climate is mild and healthy. The mountains are covered with a dense forest of deciduous trees, and are a favorite resort for the people of the State. The mountains are also a favorite resort for the people of the State, and are a favorite resort for the people of the State.

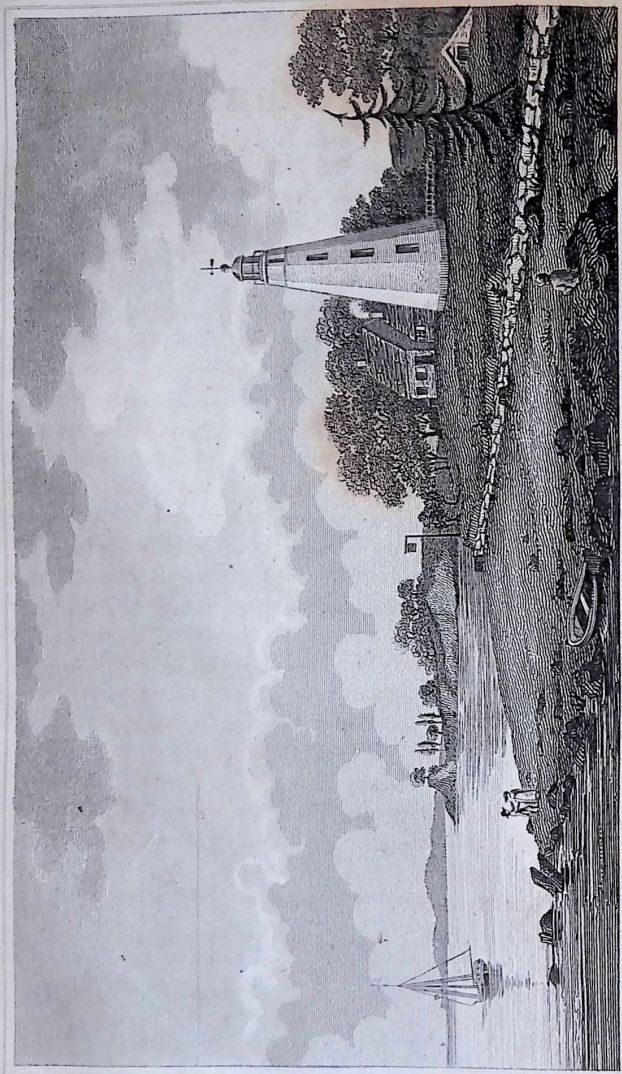


The MITCHELL-LIGHT-HOUSE on SANDS'S POINT in LONG ISLAND SOUND.

THE MITCHELL LIGHT-HOUSE.

The view before us is of that kind which needs few, if any remarks, by way of illustration. This Light-House stands on Sands' Point, in Long Island Sound, and was erected by the government some years ago, as a beacon for vessels coming in from sea, and to prevent their being lost in the dangerous navigation of the vicinity.

Although the spot seems barren and desolate, offering few inducements to the enterprise of the farmer; yet the view, as represented in the plate, is not devoid of interest. In the distance, on the left, is seen the broad bosom of Long Island Sound, an arm of the sea, unrudded by a ripple or a breeze, and bearing on its mirror-like surface, the lazy shallop, riding at anchor, in the listless quietness of the scene. Directly in front is seen the Light-House, rearing its majestic proportions, like another Babel, to the clouds, until the huge fabric tapers off into a lightning-rod. Beyond it may be seen the rural habitation of its keeper, who fills the double occupation of Light-House man and tavern keeper, as indicated by the ghost of a sign upon the adjacent point—pushed out as far as possible, to attract the notice of the way-faring man. In the distance is exhibited the beautiful diversity of scenery peculiar to some parts of the American coast: while close at hand, the spectre-like pine-tree rears its head, in certain omen of the sterility of the soil. On the top of the Light-House, the huge lantern will be observed, encircled by an iron railing, to prevent accidents happening to the keeper or his attendants. It is stated as a fact, that when a storm at sea is brewing, as night approaches, the birds that have been out upon the Ocean, attracted by the light in reaching land, fly blindly at it, and are killed on the spot by the shock. In the morning, many hundreds are frequently discovered dead.



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A View of Lemon Hill the Seat of Henry Pratt Esq.^r

LEMON HILL.

The view before us is from a drawing made upon the spot. The seat of Mr. Pratt is one among an hundred other of the noble villas of the same kind, which are profusely scattered along the banks of the Schuylkill river. The mansion house is situated on the eastern bank of the river, and directly above the splendid water works at Fair Mount, erected for the supply of Philadelphia with Schuylkill water.

Few situations for the residence of a gentleman retired from business, could be more happily chosen than that of Mr. Pratt. Delightfully situated on the banks of one of the finest rivers in Pennsylvania, presenting on all sides a succession of scenery of the most romantic description, the wealthy occupant might well be

*"Content to crown, in shades like these,
A youth of labor with an age of ease."*

When this mansion house was first erected, the spot was, compared to what it now is, possessed of all the charms of retirement and rural beauty. The great improvements, however, recently undertaken by the corporation, in the construction of reservoirs for the supply of the city with water, and the great attractions which these improvements possess in the public eye, have conducted to dispel the romantic solitude which formerly belonged to the scene. The building of a bridge across the river, and the erection of numerous stores and Dwellings, the result of the increasing trade of the Schuylkill, have all contributed to banish that air of seclusion which, a few years ago, added such charms to this romantic seat. Enough, however is still left, to make it one of the most delightful residences within many miles of Philadelphia.

Connected with the mansion, are gardens of the most extensive kind—laid out in a style of surpassing elegance and taste, and enriched with every variety of foliage, fruit and flower, both native and exotic. The grounds are rendered more enchanting by a number of fish-ponds, well stocked with fish of every kind. The hot-house process of bringing rare and valuable plants to perfection, is also carried to its height. An endless variety of the most beautiful exotics are here to be seen, alternately flourishing, unruined by the breeze that floats around.

To these delightful gardens Philadelphians have a ready access—and the stranger is always met with hearty welcome. Of an evening, the ride from the city is delightful—being but about a mile—in the course of which you pass the remains of a breastwork thrown up during the last war, in anticipation of the invasion of Philadelphia.



A View of Lemon Hill the Seat of Henry Pratt Esq.

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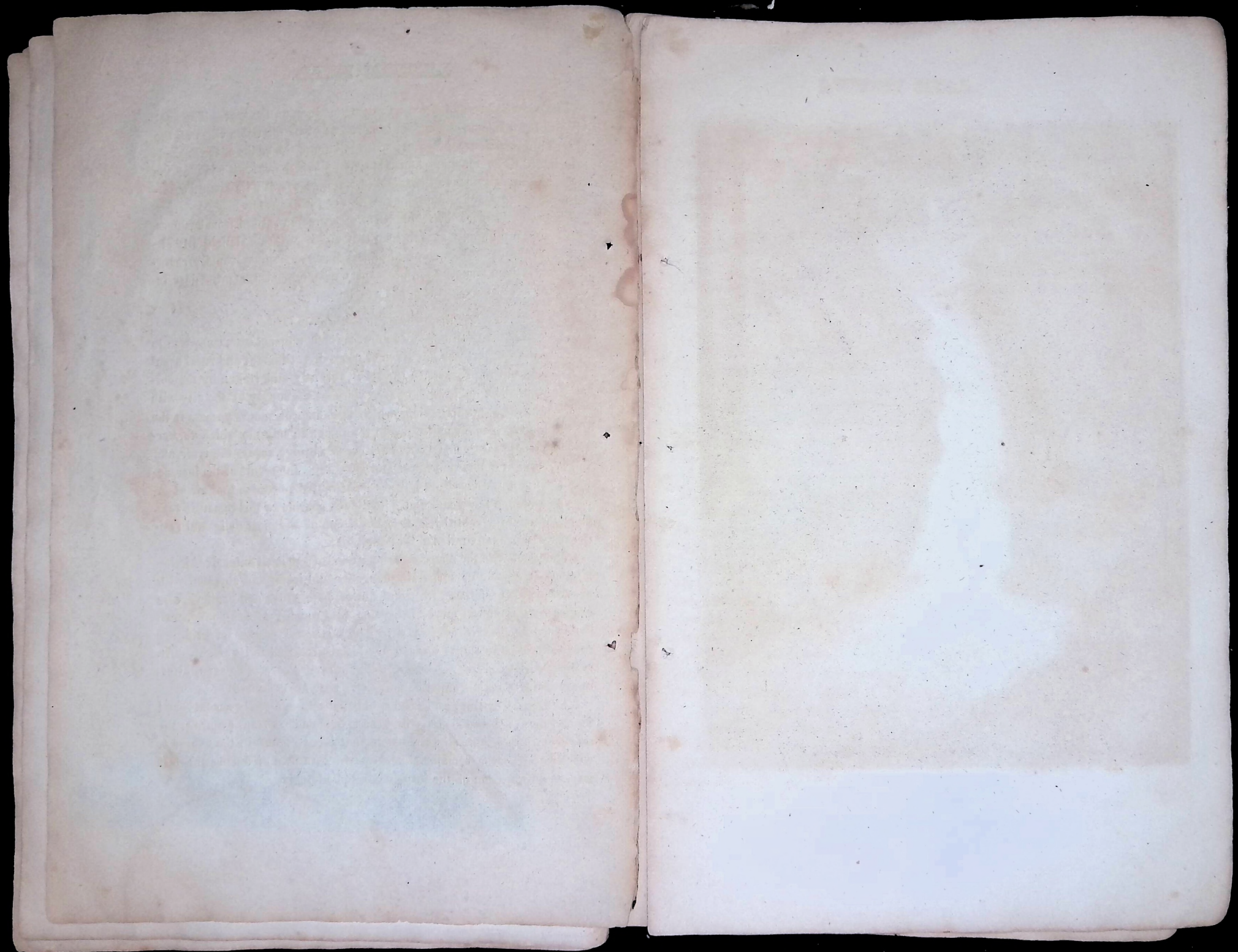
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UPPER FALLS OF SOLOMON'S CREEK.

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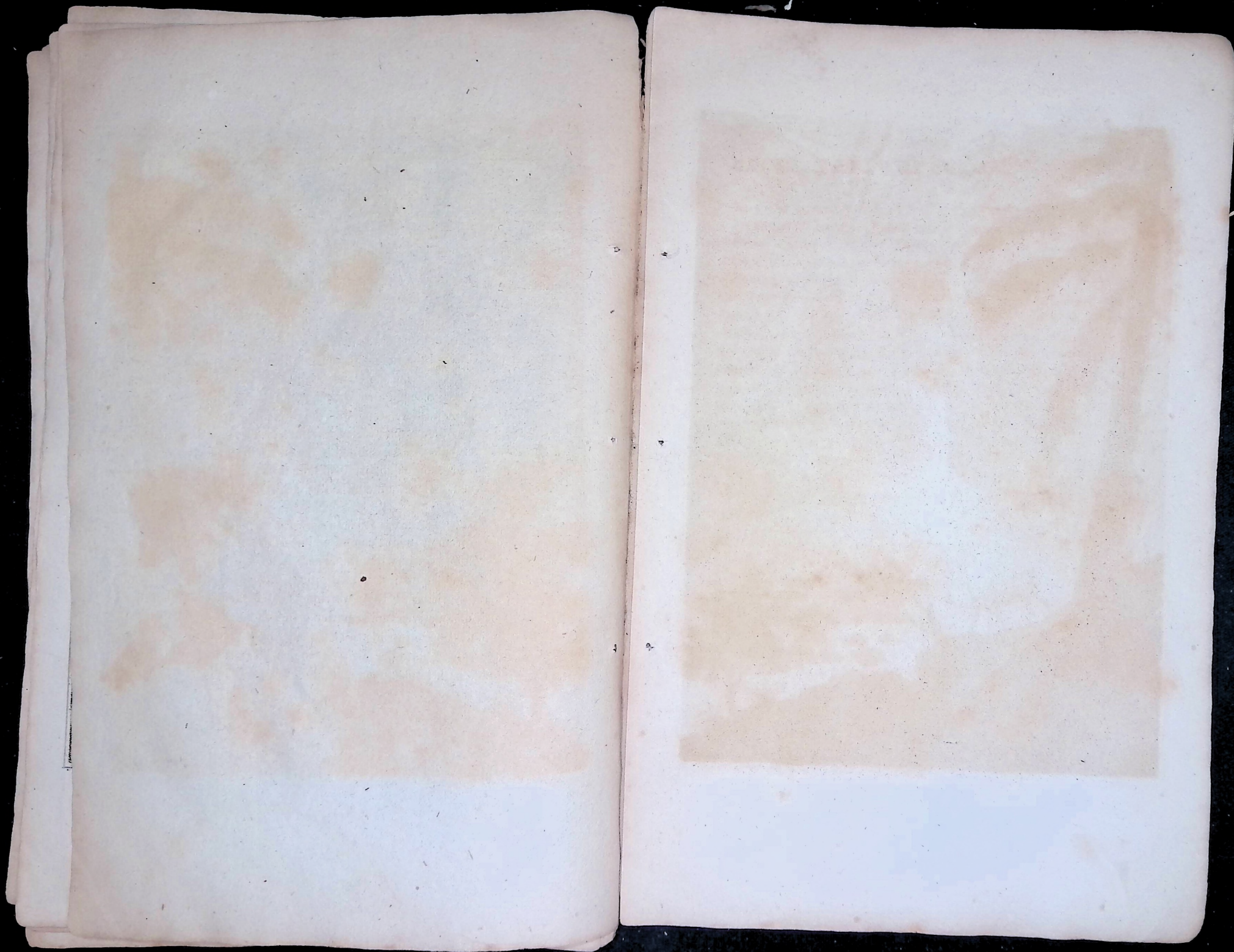
THE very attractive view of Solomon's Creek, which is given, is from a drawing by a traveller, taken from a position at the foot of the Falls.

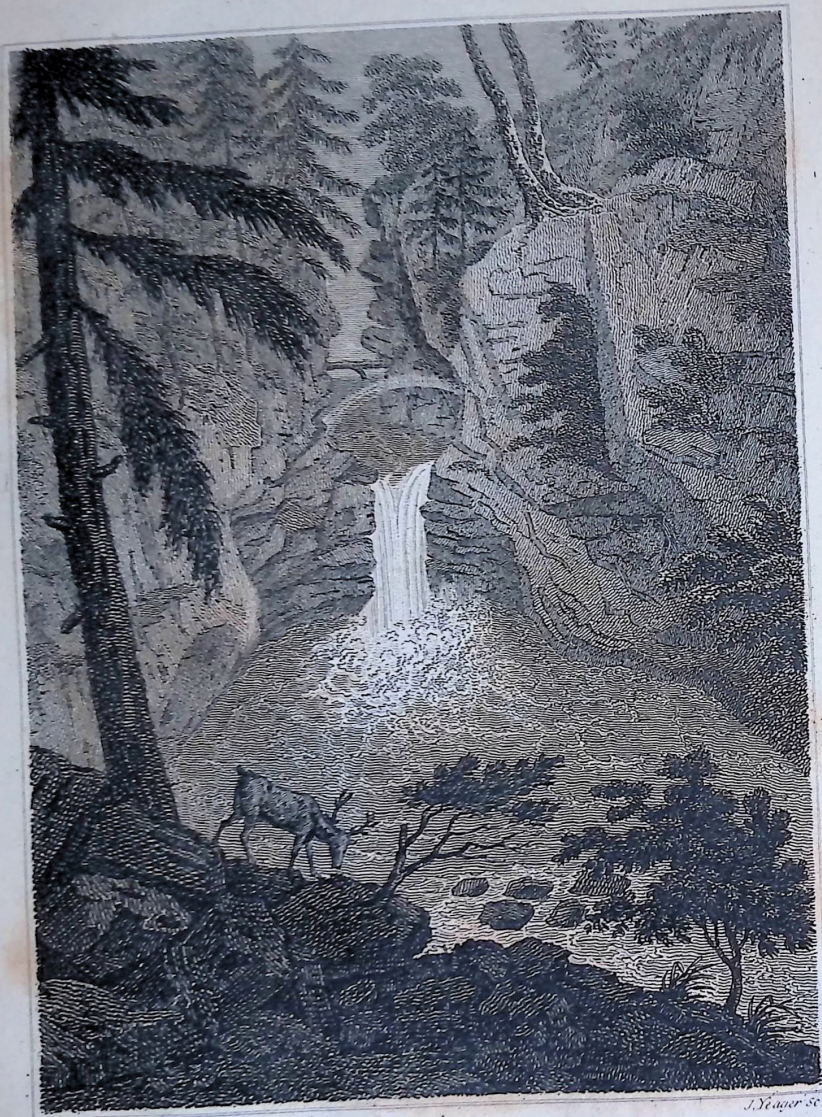
Solomon's Creek, which furnishes the subject of this view, is a tributary of the mighty Susquehanna, and empties itself into that noble river near the town of Wilkesbarre, in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania—one of the most delightfully situated villages to be found anywhere in that state. The Falls are formed by the abrupt descent of this mountain stream over a rough and shaggy ledge of rocks, into the remote retirement of which, the restless foot of human enterprise has not yet penetrated, and banished the rude, but romantic livery, which nature throws over all her works. From the Upper Falls, the noisy creek meanders for a short distance through a rocky channel, fringed with high projecting sides of slate and lime stone, and the original growth of the forest, until it makes another pitch over another barrier of the same formation, a short distance below—as exhibited in the succeeding view.

Few spots offer a more delightful solitude than the romantic borders of Solomon's Creek. Here, undisturbed by aught but the thunder of the cataract—

“A fit companion for a musing mind,”

the lover of retirement might compose himself to slumber, secluded from the more turbulent world without. There is no one here to interrupt the solemnity of his noon-day meditations, save the solitary Bittern, seated on an overhanging rock, watching, as if in silent adoration, the mighty work of an all pervading power. In this quiet retirement there is little to molest or to intrude. The wandering hunter may here pause a moment to contemplate the mighty scene, or the passing traveller turn aside from his path to look upon and admire the waterfall.



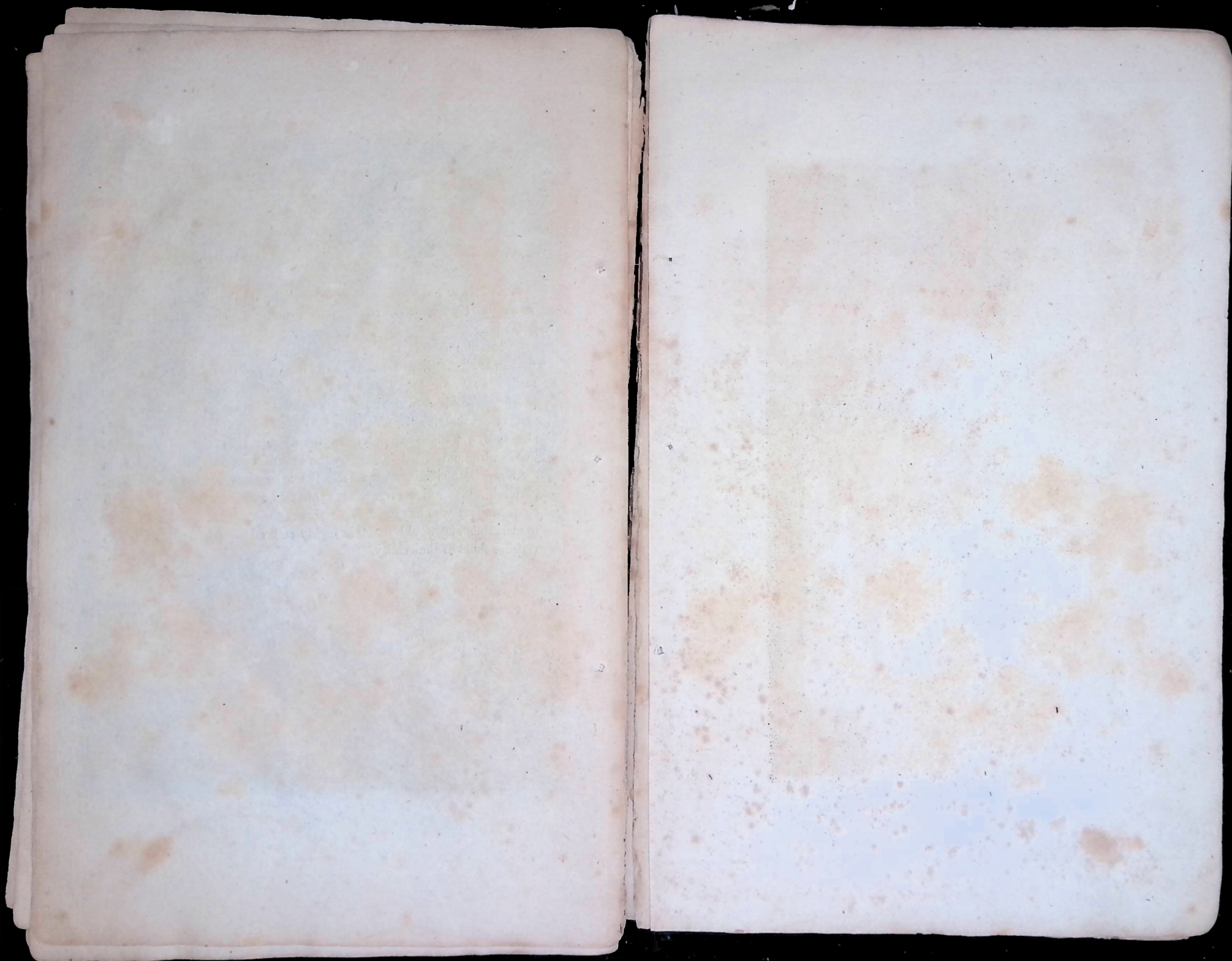


LOWER FALLS OF SOLOMON'S CREEK.

LOWER FALLS OF SOLOMON'S CREEK.

THE Lower Falls of Solomon's Creek, although not so great and noisy as the Upper Falls, afford a view infinitely more diversified and pleasing.

Population is but thinly scattered through the country adjacent, although the great improvements now in progress, the improvement of the bed of the Susquehanna, and the Delaware and Hudson Canal, will soon people those hitherto neglected hills and valleys with crowds of enterprising emigrants. The Valley of Wyoming, rendered memorable in history by the bloody massacre of the white settlers during the revolution, and immortalised in song by the beautiful poem of Campbell, is in the immediate vicinity of the Falls. The scenery around is of that superior kind, to which even poets cannot do sufficient justice; and if the eloquent poet who has made these scenes the subject of his poem, were to visit them, he would find his highly colored descriptions to fall far, very far short of the reality.





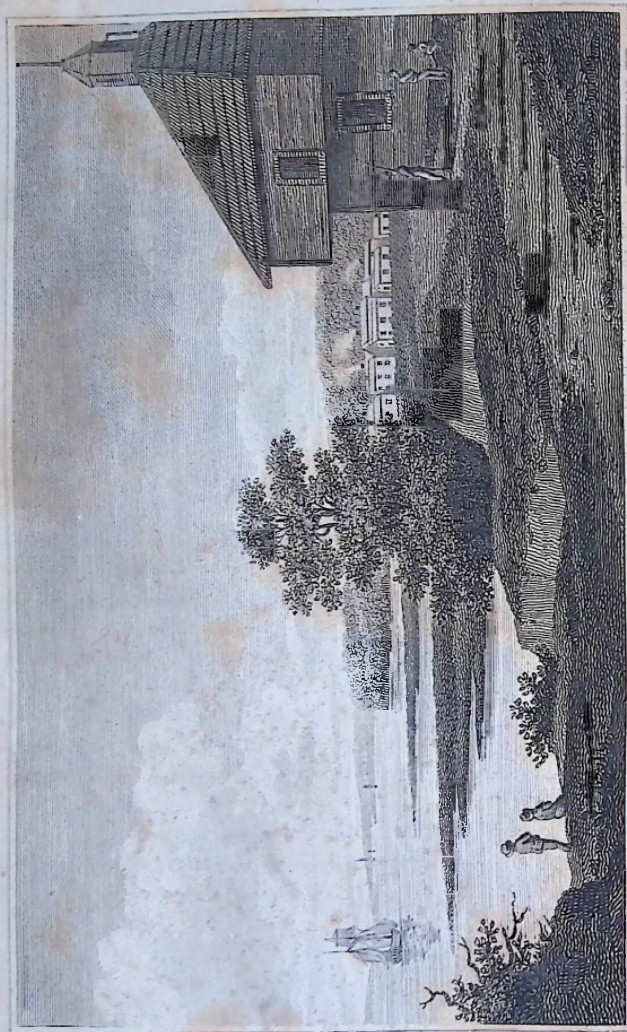
YORK, ON LAKE ONTARIO.

YORK, ON LAKE ONTARIO.

YORK, in Upper Canada, is situated on the north-west coast of Lake Ontario. It has an excellent harbor, three miles long, and where widest, one mile in width. The town is regularly laid out, and contains a Parliament House, Government House, a Hospital, a Bank, an Episcopal Church, and many substantial dwellings.

This place was the scene of a sanguinary battle, on the 27th of April, 1812. Brigadier General Pike, with a large body of Americans, landed on the Canadian shore at ten o'clock on the morning of the 27th, and immediately proceeded to the attack. The Americans advanced steadily on the out-posts of the enemy, and compelled them successively to retire, and the bugles of Forsythe soon sounded a victory; on which the Indians broke and retreated in disorder. The action continued for some time, until the enemy finding themselves pressed on all sides, spiked their guns and abandoned their forts. The victory was complete.

While General Pike was seated on a stump, examining a captured prisoner, the magazine, very near to him, exploded. The General was killed, with two hundred and sixty of the Americans, and about fifty of the enemy. After the death of Pike, the command devolved on Colonel Pearce of Pennsylvania, by whose orders the army advanced upon the town, of which, at four o'clock in the afternoon, they obtained possession, not, however, before the enemy had succeeded in destroying a vast amount of military stores, and a large vessel on the stocks, ready to be launched. The number of prisoners taken, was nearly three hundred, and the arms and ammunition captured, were of considerable value.



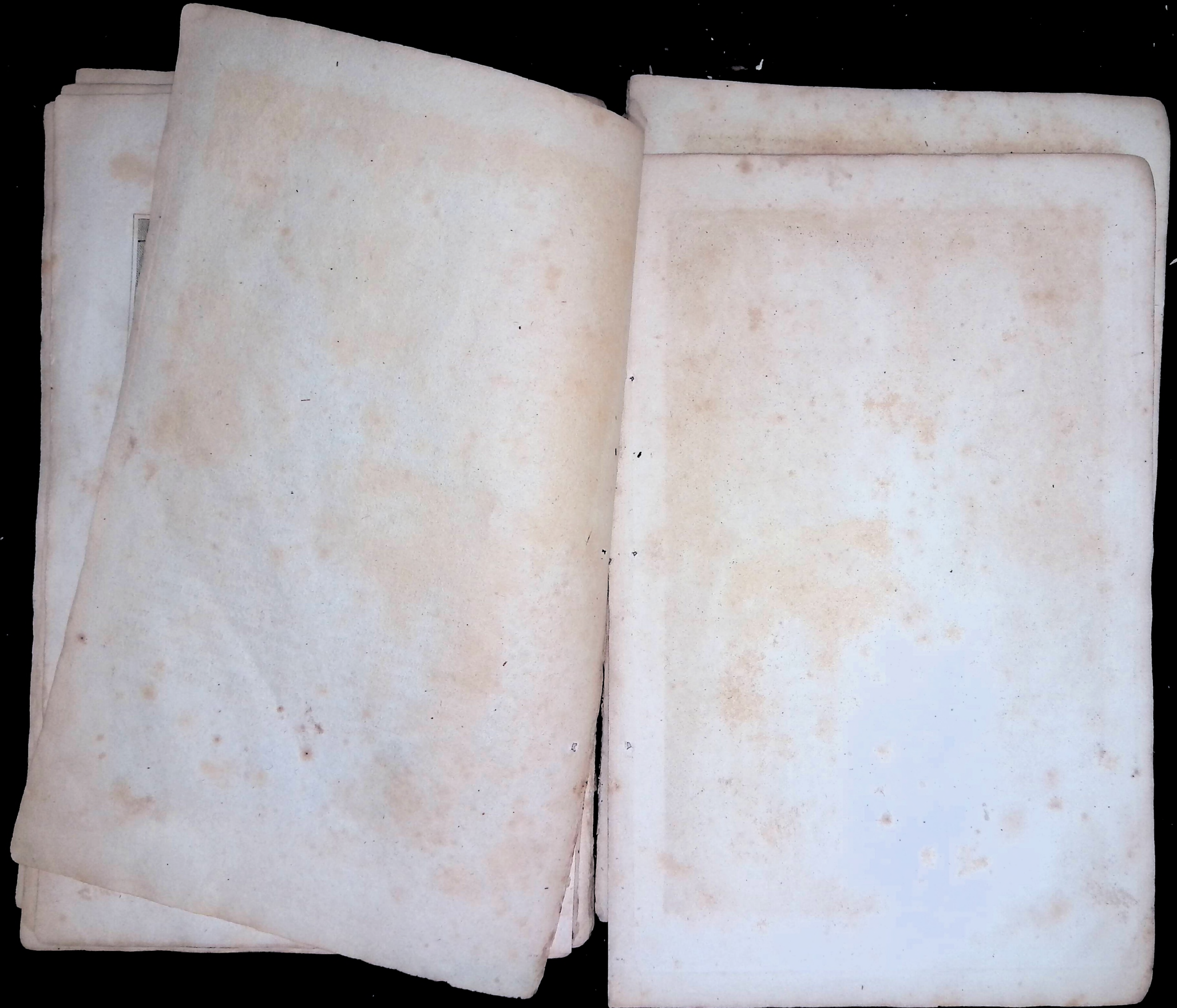
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NEW LONDON from MANWARING'S HILL.

NEW LONDON.

NEW LONDON is a city of Connecticut, and a port of entry. It is situated on the west bank of the river Thames, three miles from its mouth. The shipping belonging to the port is extensive and valuable, and is principally employed in the coasting trade, in the fisheries, and in the West India trade. New London contains a court-house, two banks, an insurance office, two newspaper establishments, and five places of worship. The amount of shipping in the district is about 20,000 tons.

The view represented in the plate, is taken from Manwaring's Hill, in the rear of the city—a pleasant eminence, and affording a fine prospect of the whole city and harbor, its fortifications and islands.

In the autumn of 1813, Commodore Decatur, with the frigate *United States*, and the sloop of war *Hornet*, was vigorously blockaded in the harbor of New London, by a British squadron under the command of Sir T. Hardy. Here, for several months, Commodore Decatur led an inactive and uneasy life. Numerous skirmishes, however, were constantly occurring between parties of the British and the inhabitants of the neighboring towns. Midshipman Ten Eyke, of the *United States*, on one occasion surprised and captured two lieutenants, two warrant officers and five seamen, in a house on Gardner's Island. Incursions into the neighboring states were frequent with the British forces, in the course of which immense quantities of valuable shipping and stores were destroyed. Their conduct however, was not marked by that savage brutality which distinguished the carnages at Havre de Grace and Hampton. Individual property was almost invariably respected. In July, 1814, the blockading squadron received orders to take possession of Moose Island, opposite to the province of New Brunswick, and on the western side of Passamaquoddy Bay, in the territory of the United States. Having done this, he returned to his old ground before New London; and, on the 9th of August, commenced the unsuccessful attack on Stonington.



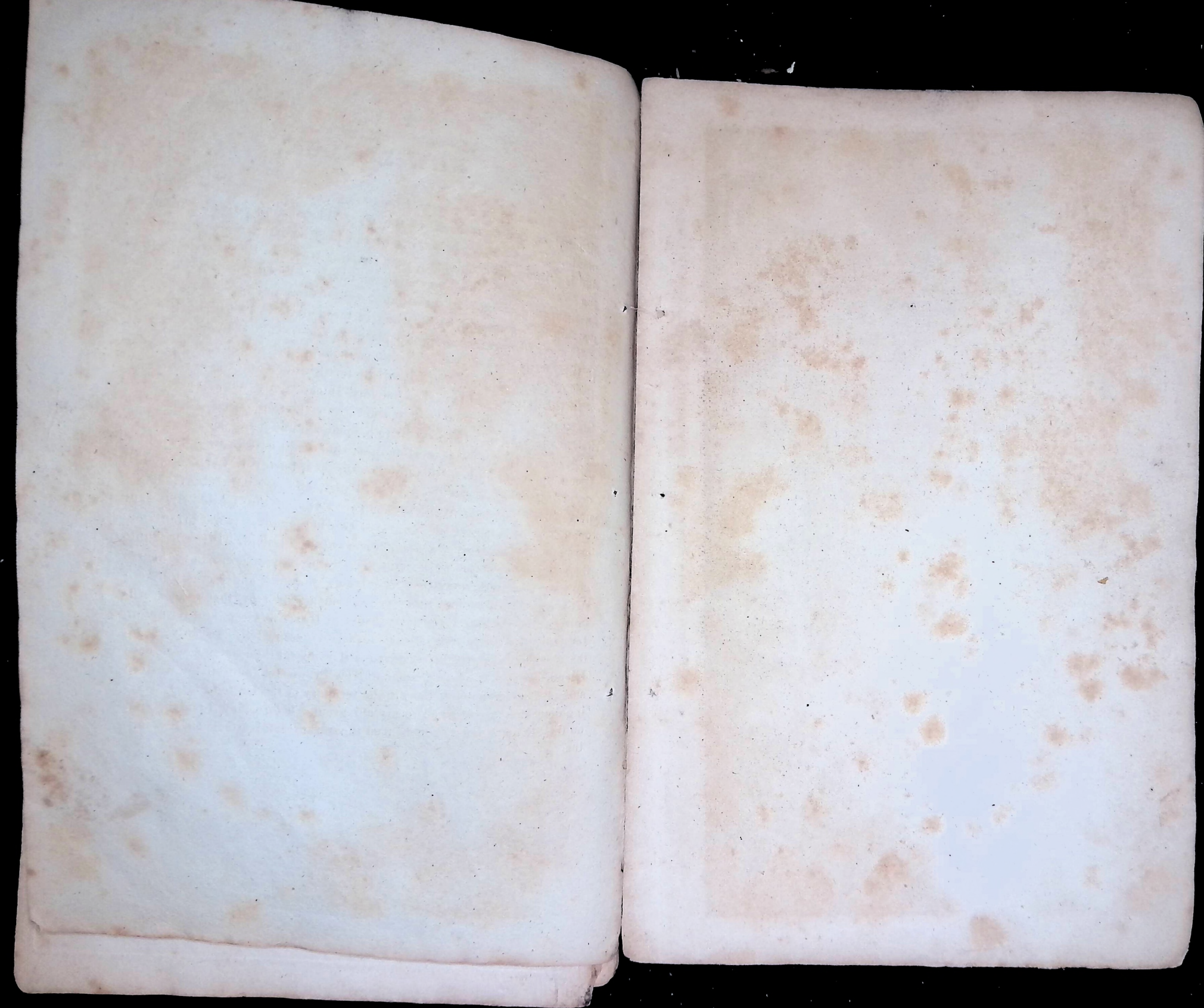
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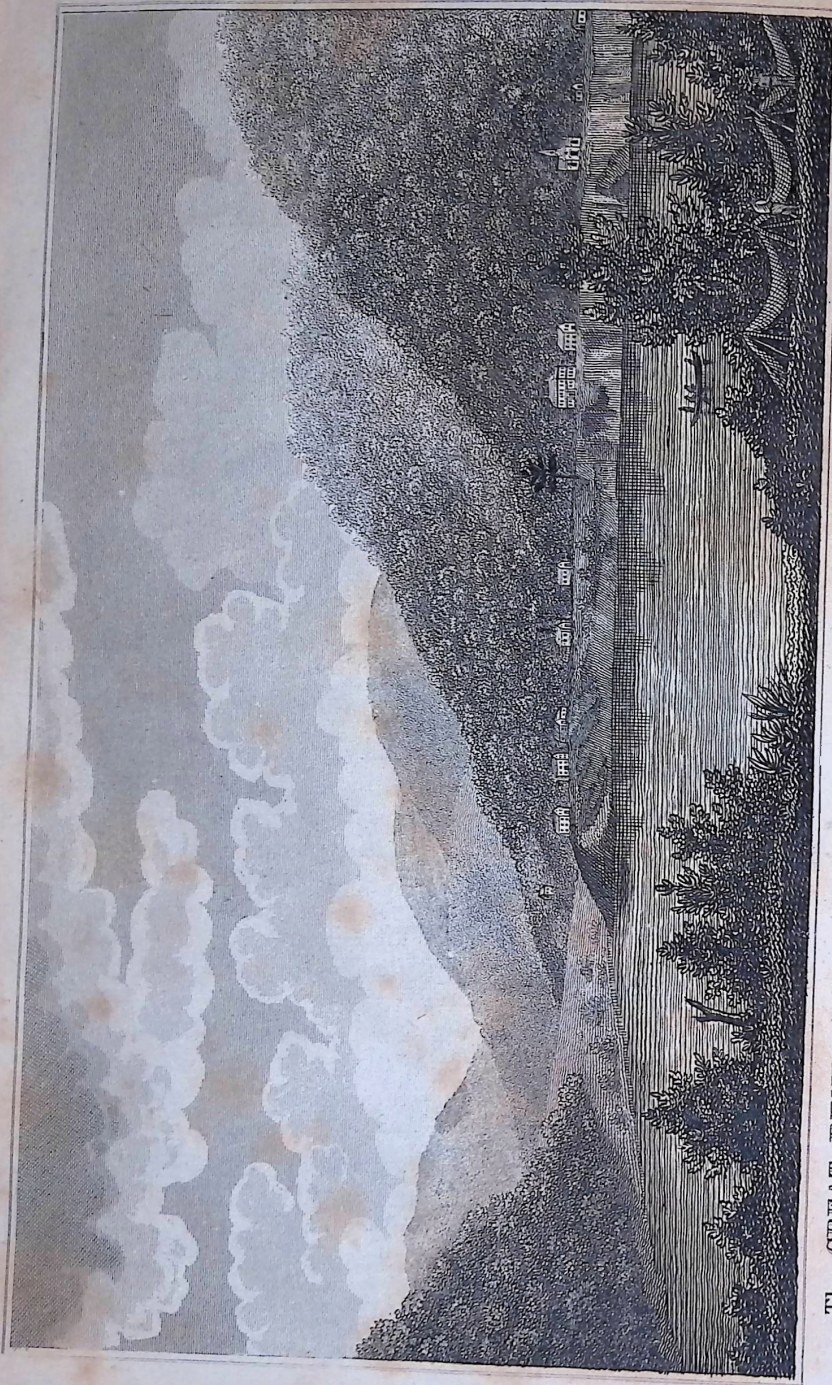
The GREAT BEND of the Susquehanna River, in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania.

GREAT BEND OF SUSQUEHANNA.

THE Susquehanna, one of the noblest rivers in the world, is formed by the union of two streams, or branches, one of which rises in Otsego Lake, New York; it receives the other at Northumberland, in Pennsylvania, after which, the course of the river is first south, and then south east, until it falls into the Chesapeake Bay. During the last fifty miles of its course, the navigation of the river is obstructed by an almost continued series of rapids, but further up, to the union of the two branches, there is no obstruction but what can be surmounted at a small expense. An immense trade is carried on by means of the river, and lumber in vast quantities is annually rafted down to Baltimore and the intermediate places.

The scenery on the Susquehanna is of the most romantic description. For many miles of its course it winds at the foot of the Allegheny Mountains, whose huge tops rise for many feet above the bosom of the river, presenting to the eye of the traveller, scenes of the boldest and most attractive kind. Many are the towns and villages upon its borders; and most of them remarkable for the beauty and fertility of the country round them.

One of the most remarkable natural curiosities upon the Susquehanna, is the GREAT BEND, formed by an acute angle of the east branch, near Montrose, in Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania. The river, in its course south, is suddenly diverted to the west by the Mountains, which offer an insurmountable barrier to its progress. The view is taken from the spot, and presents the barrier which so suddenly arrests the progress of the mighty river. There is here a considerable settlement, and some fine houses. The vicinity is remarkable for its fine fishing ground.



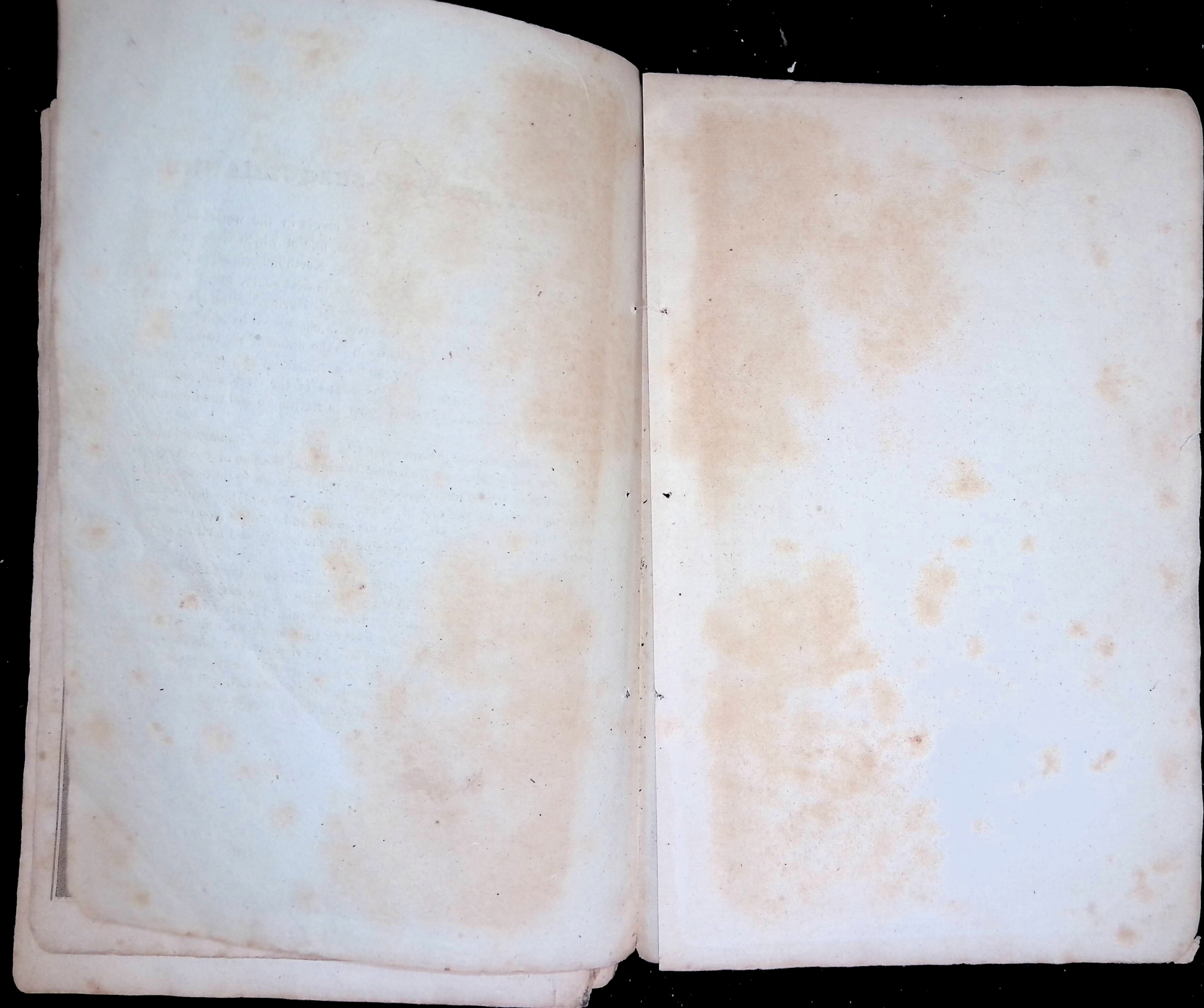
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View of FORT NIAGARA ON LAKE ONTARIO from the LIGHT HOUSE on the BRITISH SIDE.

FORT NIAGARA.

A REMARKABLE fine view of the Fortifications at Niagara is here presented, from the Light House on the British side. The situation of the Fort is one of great natural strength, and during the late war was a most important frontier post, and was once heavily bombarded from fort George, on the opposite side of the river Niagara. The cannonade was returned by the Americans for several hours, during which time a great quantity of hot shot were thrown from both forts. From the south block house of Fort Niagara, the shot was principally directed against the village of Newark, which was totally destroyed. This battery was commanded by Captain McKeon, and the guns were worked with great ability, as the result abundantly proved. The enemy commenced the attack by throwing shells, and as there was no defence against these, Captain Leonard, the commandant at fort Niagara, ordered a retreat from the garrison. The bursting of a two-pounder, by which two men were killed, deprived the fort of its best battery. The retreat, however, had scarcely been ordered, when the enemy were observed embarking troops to capture the fort, upon which Captain McKeon returned with a guard of twenty men, and kept possession of the fort. This occurred in December, 1813. On the 19th of the same month, the British attacked and captured the fort, and put the whole garrison to death.

At present, the fort is not garrisoned, nor has it been for a long time. The works, however, are kept in order by the government, to guard against the contingencies of another contest with Great Britain.

The village of Newark, which is defended by fort George, has since been rebuilt, and now contains two houses of public worship, a printing office, and a considerable number of houses.



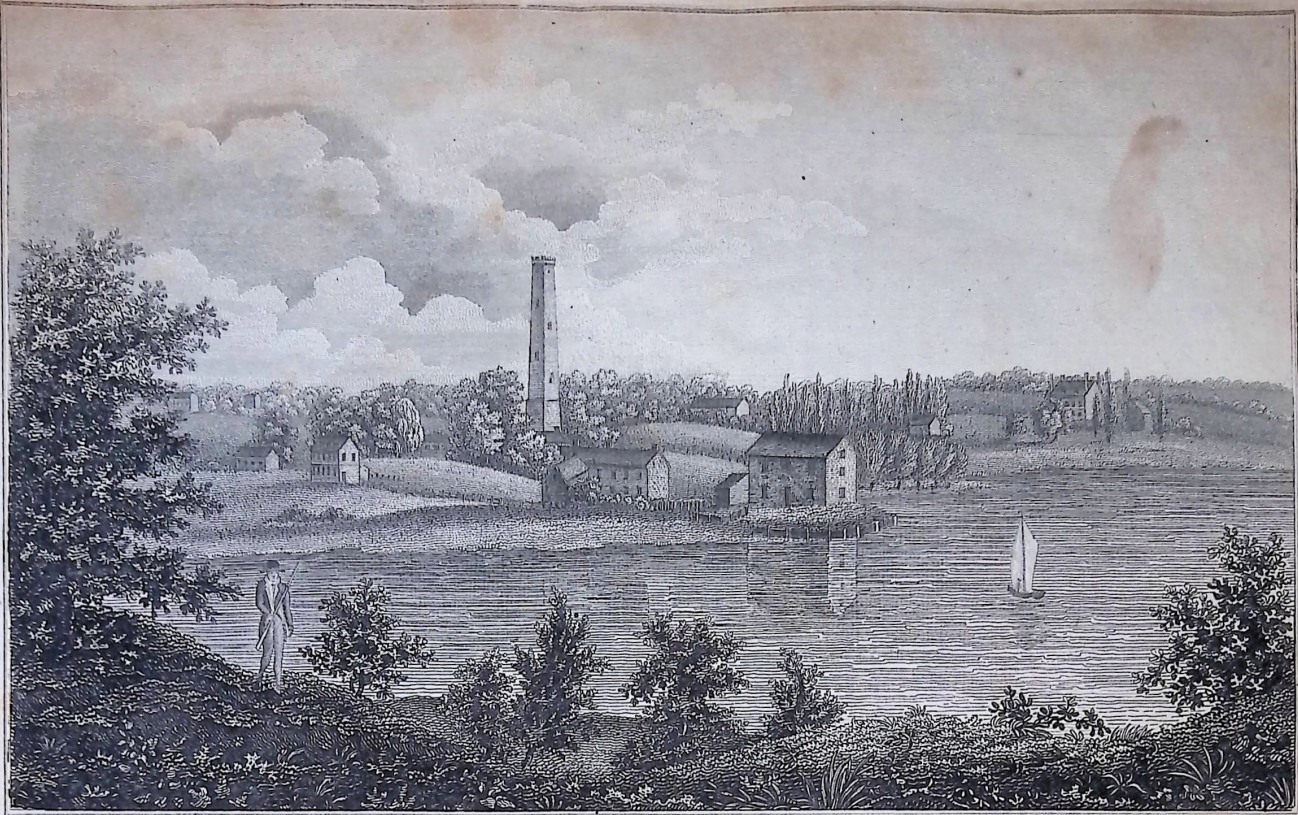
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N.W. View of Mr Paul Beck's Shot Tower near the Schuylkill.

BECK'S SHOT-TOWER.

THE Shot-Tower of Mr. Beck is an object of much curiosity to strangers visiting Philadelphia. It stands upon the east bank of the Schuylkill, in the rear of the city--the view is taken from the opposite side of the river, as affording a fine prospect of the tower, and the adjacent scenery. It is many years since this lofty brick edifice was built, and is now the only one used for the purpose of making shot. The old Tower, in the southern part of the city, near the navy yard, has long ago been abandoned, leaving Mr. Beck without a competitor. This Tower was erected at a great expense; but it is believed the enterprising proprietor has been amply rewarded for his expenditures, by the flourishing condition of a long continued business, from which he has retired with a princely fortune.

Since the Tower was erected, but more particularly since the many recent improvements in its neighborhood, on the Schuylkill, a little village has sprung up at its base, in which the busy hum of industry gives token of successful business.

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