



GRAY'S FERRY, NEAR PHILADELPHIA. Feb. 1829.

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FRIENDS MEETING, LOWER MERION. May 1829.

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It is not less a duty than a pleasure, frequently to reflect upon the devotedness of our forefathers, who suffered many wrongs in their native land, and came hither to establish and enjoy civil and religious freedom. To those distinguished pioneers we owe a debt of gratitude which can never be liquidated. The recent institution of the society for commemorating the landing of WILLIAM PENN and his companions upon the shores of the Delaware, is in proof of the dispositions of the present age to pay homage to the principles, and honor to the names, of our illustrious benefactors. Long may this generous spirit animate our sons, and as century after century rolls between the bright morning of the provincial birth of Pennsylvania, the generations hereafter to partake of the blessings it conferred, may they increasingly hallow that event.

These thoughts have arisen involuntarily, and perhaps they are not wholly out of place, as introductory to a brief notice of the ancient build-

ing, a view of which is furnished in this number.

Among the first settlers, on the acquisition of the founder, were a large number of Welsh people, of great respectability and substance, who suffered the persecution of that period as Friends, or Quakers. These excellent persons purchased tracts of land on the western side of the river Schuylkill, about seven miles from the spot fixed upon for the city of Philadelphia, which forming a township, it was called Merioneth, after a place of that name in their native country. On their arrival, in 1682, they proceeded to occupy and improve their possessions; and one of their earliest cares was the erection of a meeting-house for public worship, and for the transaction of the affairs of the society, as directed by its discipline. The venerable structure here represented is the fruit of the pious labours of those devoted men. The timber of which it is built is all *keton*, saws of a large size not being then employed in the settlement. The simplicity of the workmanship, and the style of the house, form a record of the opinions and capacities of

our ancestors to execute plans and buildings. In this respect we remark a peculiarity,—that of the form of the house. It represents a cross, and thus indicates that they were Christians.

A sun dial placed near this house by one of the patriarchs, whose means assisted to erect it, stood for more than a century the only regulator of the time in that vicinity, and contributed to accomplish his design in putting it there,—*“that Friends might be punctual and orderly in their attendance at meeting.”*

Many interesting personal anecdotes are associated with this spot, which has been devoted to purposes of religion for nearly an hundred and fifty years; a recital of these would not perhaps be acceptable to the general reader, and we forbear to add more than express our hope, that *Merion Meeting-House* may be preserved for ages to come, as a specimen of our primitive architecture, and a monument of the piety of our honourable predecessors.



The Stage coach in 1816-

A TRIP.—A gentleman left Baltimore on Saturday evening, at 5 o'clock, P. M. arrived in Philadelphia at 6 o'clock, A. M. visited many of the beautiful sections of the city, Fair Mount Water Works, &c. then crossed over to New Jersey, making the fourth State he had visited, returned and embarked on board the Union Line and arrived in Baltimore at 2 o'clock this morning, without loss of rest or being fatigued.
Monday, July 13, 1824
A COSMOPOLITE.