

JOURNAL
OF A
TOUR IN NORTH AMERICA,
IN 1841—2.

CHAPTER I.

Voyage.—Harbour of Halifax.—Excursions near Boston.—Difference of Plants from European Species, and Correspondence of Marine Shells.—Resemblance of Drift, Erratics, and furrowed Rocks, to those of Sweden.—Springfield.—New Haven.—Scenery of the Hudson.—Albany.—Geological Surveys.—Mohawk Valley.—Ancient or Silurian Formations.—Prosperity and rapid Progress of the People.—Lake Ontario.—Tortoises.—Fossil Remains of Mastadon.

July 20, 1841.—Sailed from Liverpool for Boston, U. S., in the steam-ship Acadia, which held her course as straight as an arrow from Cape Clear in Ireland to Halifax in Nova Scotia, making between 220 and 280 miles per day.

After the monotony of a week spent on the open sea, we were amused when we came near the great banks which extend from the southern point of Newfoundland, by the rapid passage of the steamer through alternate belts of stationary fog and clear spaces warmed and lighted up with bright sunshine. Looking at the dense fog from the intermediate sunny