

clined strata of gneiss, mica schist, and other metamorphic rocks, which began to be covered at Frederick, and between that and the first ridge of the Alleghany hills, with unconformable beds of the New Red Sandstone, dipping gently to the southwest, or towards the mountains. We continued chiefly on this red sandstone between Frederick and Harper's Ferry, and then entered again upon mica schist and chlorite slate.

At Harper's Ferry, in Virginia, the Potomac, about fifty miles above Washington, is joined by the Shenandoah, a river as large as itself, and after uniting, they issue through a transverse gorge in the mountains. This gorge interested me from its exact resemblance to the Lehigh Gap, before described, in Pennsylvania, by which the Delaware flows out from the hilly country. The scenery of Harper's Ferry has been overpraised, but is very picturesque.

I had hired a carriage at Frederick to carry me to Harper's Ferry, and thence to Hagerstown, on the main road across the mountains. When I paid the driver, he told me that one of my dollar notes was bad, "a mere personal note." I asked him to explain, when he told me that he had issued such notes himself. "A friend of mine at Baltimore," he said, "who kept an oyster store, once proposed to me to sign twenty-five such notes, promising that if I would eat out their value in oysters, he would circulate them. They all passed, and we never heard of them again." I asked how he reconciled this transaction to his conscience? He replied, that their currency was in a very unsound state, all the banks having suspended cash payment, and their only hope was that matters