

## CHAPTER XXXVIII.

Greensburg to Philadelphia.—Crossing the Alleghany Mountains.—Scenery.—Absence of Lakes.—Harrisburg.—African Slave-trade.—Railway Meeting at Philadelphia.—Borrowing Money for Public Works.—Negro Episcopal Clergyman.—Washington.—National Fair and Protectionist Doctrines.—Dog-wood in Virginia.—Excursion with Dr. Wyman.—Natural History.—Musk-rats.—Migration of Humming-birds to New Jersey.

*April 19, 1846.*—LEFT Greensburg, intending to cross the Alleghany Mountains to Harrisburg, and go thence to Philadelphia. We started in the evening in a large stage coach, in which were nine inside passengers, so that our night journey through Youngstown, Stonytown, and Shellsburg was fatiguing, and not the less so by our having twice to turn out in the dark, while all the luggage was shifted to a new vehicle. The last of these broke down, one of the wheels having given way, and we had an opportunity of witnessing the resources and ingenuity displayed on such occasions by American travelers. A large bough of a tree was cut off with an ax, and tied on to the axletree with ropes, so as to support the body of the carriage, and in this way we went several miles without inconvenience. During one of the night transfers of our luggage a carpet bag of mine was left behind, and when I afterward missed it at Philadelphia I wrote to three places to claim it. After five days I found it in my room in the hotel, no one knowing whence it came, and nothing having been paid for it. Before reaching Philadelphia it must have been transferred to three distinct conveyances, including two railways. I may state here a fact highly creditable to the public conveyances in the United States, that I never lost a package in either of my tours, although I sent more than thirty boxes of geological specimens from various places, often far south of the Potomac, and west of the Alleghanies; some by canals, some by river steamers, others by coaches or railways. Every one of them sooner or later found their way safely to my house in London.