



SCENE ON THE DELAWARE.

Historical Sketch of Trenton.

BEAUTIFULLY located amid fertile fields on the eastern bank of the Delaware, in the direct line of travel between two cities which from early colonial days have been recognized as centres of new world civilization and progress, Trenton, the fair capital of New Jersey, marks the limit of the Delaware river navigation, and has from the early days when the straggling village formed the theatre for events of the utmost importance to the struggling colonists, held an important place in the history of our Republic.

The first settlements in Trenton and the immediate vicinity were made by Friends who found their way to the falls of the Delaware from the settlements at Philadelphia about the year 1676. They made their homes on either side of the river, those on the Jersey shore being located on the lowlands at the mouth of the Assanpink. Some time between 1687 and 1692 a great flood broke upon the settlement and carried their homes away. At this period the island at Morrisville was cut off from the main-land. During the same year a malignant fever swept the little colony and but few survived this second calamity.