1871-1872 Caspar Morris journal 1994

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the rate of descent & rather the ascent of trains marks the great grade by which the R.R. descends some 300 feet in a very short distance. The views up and down the Valley of the Meuse are very beautiful & impressive. Soon after passing from Liege Eastward we were struck by the name of Chaudfontaine as indicating the existence of Thermal Springs. and saw the spot where they burst out in a lovely Valley & soon after passed a Modern Castle belonging to a wealthy Manufacturer. Ennobled some few years since by the King of Belgium as a mark of appreciation of services rendered to the public. It is a beautiful residence in the midst of hills & valleys almost mauleverous in character and said to stand on the site of a hunting lodge of Pepin the father of Charles Martel. & ancestor of Charlemagne. The whole country is now full of woolen mills and other tokens of riches arising from modern art & enterprise — I do not wonder it is the object of cortous desire by modern sovereigns. It must add greatly to the wealth and power of the nation to which it belongs. Long may it be as now the smiling abode of plenty & of peace. Passing over the valley of the Meuse we next came to the mining and manufacturing districts studded thickly with chimneys of Engines attached either to mines of Coal Iron. Zinc Gold or Silver or lead all of which are found in these districts. So mountainous that the Rail Road passes through not