

“therefore grouped themselves along-side of the railway track, in small settlements which have gradually become villages and cities even. Where there are no railways the population has not increased, as a general rule, but on the contrary it has decreased, from the cause noticed above; real estate has depreciated in market value, and there is everywhere noticed a general stagnation in business enterprise. This has been the invariable effect, whenever from poverty or from the opposition we have noticed, railways have not been constructed in the New England States. Where they have been built the farmer has reaped the benefit in no niggardly degree. His farm has increased in market value; his produce finds a ready market at greatly advanced values. Easy communication with the cities, the foci of wealth, intelligence and enterprise, has enlightened and elevated his mind, as well as filled his pockets. These and other manifold benefits are no mere matters of speculation; they are facts which the New England farmer is willing and does bear witness to every day, in spite of his early and mistaken prepossessions against the railway.

“Some eleven years since, a person was forced, very unwillingly, to take a farm within some ten miles of this city (Boston), in payment of a debt of some \$12,000. It was,—take that or nothing; and he did take it, although he thought himself a loser of fifty per cent. of the debt by the transaction. A line of Railway was chartered to run through it, and he vehemently opposed the project on the ground that it would ruin the property; and he believed it too. The Railway was built in spite of his opposition, and now mark the result. Of that same property he has sold enough to net him a round hundred thousand dollars, besides having a very handsome and valuable estate left. His mind has changed somewhat as to the value of Railways.

“We copy from the New York Wool Grower:—Our products are valuable in proportion to the cheapest and best facilities whereby they may be transported to market