

a difference which may be attributed to their latitude. One man, when attacked on the subject of slavery, made an ingenious defence: "If you English," said he, "are as shocked at slavery as you profess to be, why do you not put an end to it? This is in your own power."—"How?" they said; "how?" And he continued, "Refuse to receive in your ports the slave-grown sugar and slave-grown cotton, or subject them to a heavy duty, and it will be no longer profitable for us to cultivate. We must free our negroes then, for we could not afford to maintain them. But you will not do that. If we are the robbers who take the poor man's labour without paying him for it, you are the receivers, who knowingly buy the stolen goods, and then turn up the whites of your eyes at the iniquity you encourage. No, no. Like all the rest of the world, you wish to be virtuous, but you don't want to be ruined by your virtue, any more than we do." His opponents were silent, the subject dropped, and no one afterwards touched upon it.

The boats (of this Cunard line) have better machinery, it is said, than their American competitors; they are, however, inferior in the models of their hulls. The English mind in the matter of ship-building, as in many other respects, is as dogged as the Chinese, and with difficulty accepts the improvements which modern science has suggested. Of the two, the Americans have made the shortest average passages, and are the more popular, not only with foreigners, but with the English themselves. Provisions were abundant and excellent on board, but the attendance next to none, and the crowding unpleasant.