

words of Dr. Channing, it is a Slave County that reeks with licentiousness of this kind, and for proof I refer to the opinions of Judge Harper, of North Carolina, in his defence of Southern Slavery."—*Hon. Thomas Morris, in the Senate of the United States.*

"We" says the Editor of the *New York Tribune*, "travelled through Virginia in 1835 in company with a Mississippi overseer, who openly boasted of and chuckled over his triumphs in subjecting the enslaved girls under his control to the dominion of his lust, and this is but one illustration among many of a system which prevails wherever there is any necessity for resorting to force. Mrs. J. E. Swisshelm, of the *Pittsburgh Saturday Visitor*, in a late letter in reply to Mrs. Julia Gardiner Tyler, among many facts illustrating the abominations of Slavery which came under her notice during a two years' residence at Louisville, Kentucky, (where the system exists in its milder form) gives the following:—

"There I became acquainted with a lady 'to the manner born,' who used to tell me her causes of sorrow. One of these was that she had brought her husband a large fortune, which he had squandered in common with his own, and reduced her to comparative poverty. A second was, the loss of a waiting-maid, a wedding gift from her grandfather. This girl she described as beautiful, 'tall and straight as an arrow,' with finely moulded form and delicate features, hair which fell to her waist in natural ringlets, and large, soft eyes. The mistress was very proud of her little maid, but once, during a short absence of the wife, the husband and master had, by whipping and threatening, compelled the girl, then ten years old, to become his paramour. For four years she kept the girl in her family, knowing the relations she sustained to her husband, and also knowing they were wholly involuntary on her part. She looked to her mistress for protection from her master's brutality, and according to that mistress's own account, she had endeavoured to protect her, but in vain. Then, to use her own words, 'I got so I could not bear her in my sight, and she got saucy, so I sold her to go down South with a lady, and only got seven hundred dollars for her. Two years afterward she was up here with her mistress, and she had grown so tall I hardly knew her—as fine a looking girl as ever you saw, and they say she was easy worth two thousand dollars.'"

"This is a very brief history of number two of Mrs. —'s great and incurable sorrows. Number three was that a bachelor uncle had died intestate. She had been his favourite niece, and he had always promised to give her two boys—'two as beautiful boys', she assured me, as ever I 'had set my eye upon.' They were his own sons—their mother a mulatto slave, whom he had compelled by imprisonment, starvation and stripes to become his mistress. She had resisted almost to the death, because she loved a fellow-slave whom she wished to marry. The master's vigorous courtship prevailed, and she became the mother of the 'two beautiful boys' who were to have been a legacy to Mrs. —. She died of consumption while her children were quite young, and their father had loved them very much. It was his affection for them which had prompted his *benevolent* intention to give them to his favourite niece; but death came suddenly, and they were sold and divided with the rest of the estate.

"The lady who told me these particulars of her family history, was a regular member of the Methodist Church—a praying woman—and her quivering lip and clenched hands as she spoke of these matters, left no room to doubt the truth of her story, even if it had not been corroborated by all the circumstances of her life, and the testimony of others; yet this woman defended the institution of Slavery, with as much zeal as Mrs. Julia Gardiner Tyler, and with precisely similar arguments. She was a native of Kentucky. Her whole life had been spent there, and she had no conception of any other state of society. She felt personally injured, but was quite unable to trace that injury up to its true source, while the strange jumble of ideas in her mind about the unprotected state of female slaves—her bitter hatred of them for its consequences—her religious valuation of a soul, and money account of loss and profit in disadvantageous sales, proved the most perplexing psychological riddle I ever attempted to read.

* * * "A bachelor merchant took advantage of the pecuniary difficulties of a native farmer, to compel him to sell a slave daughter, "Maria," a tall, bright qua-

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