

more, than among the Virginians and their associates. The latter were generally bred in habits of superiority, and accustomed to deference from early years, owing to the great prevalence of slavery in those times. The former were commonly accustomed to stand on the ground of individual character, and had few adventitious circumstances to enhance their personal merits. Far from being the mere appendage to his estate, the New-Englander was generally, under Providence, the creator of whatever fortune he enjoyed. Multiplying rapidly, from the fecundity consequent on their climate and habits, the people of New-England saw their property liable to frequent and indefinite subdivisions ; while the single heir of the rich southern planter often surveyed from the same "maison seigneuriale" the hereditary and undiminished fields of his family for several generations.

Hence the planters were, in fact, a kind of lords ; and so too were the merchants, another body of "honourable men ;" and between the two there obtained not only a domestic rivalry, but a civil competition.

I think that, when Switzerland threw off the yoke of Austria, she enacted sumptuary laws for her citizens. Whether she did or not however, I can conceive of no better method, if practicable, to restrain within bounds one species of show and parade, to which the emulation, I have named, naturally tends. Our Americans were rarely desirous of rivalling the ancient Republicans of Rome in their poverty. They emulated rather their power and personal influence. And as to means of obtaining them, these were such, as happened to be in