

112
Duty & Rich. Econ.
Jan. 1878.
Prof. Ashley.

C 6043

into "The Fathers" - Talgran's sketch of Pol. Econ. - written by Prof. Ashley.

With some of the Fathers the repugnance towards wealth, the moral condemnation of wealth as a matter of fact it then commonly presented itself as a result of violence & fraud & associated with luxury, this suspicious attitude towards wealth associated with the teaching of brotherly love among Christians & seemed to involve conviction of enjoyment of not of possession, these various influences caused some of them to use very strong language in the denunciation of private property & naturalness of community. - St. Ambrose's nature has put all things in common for common right etc. - violence made private right.

As early as the early Middle Ages, as the good sense of our Lord which early church expected seemed further postponed, as more serious & statesmanlike theologians recognizing existing social order, there was felt the same necessity as in case of slavery etc. such a defence who did satisfy the Christian conscience & recognizing social order. - So quite early we find some fathers explaining renunciation of riches = renunciation of love of riches - & that wealth allowed of used for good of the brethren who nominally included all subjects.

The complete theory of the subject was formulated in case of property as in case of slavery by St. Augustine. In his mind there was almost a complete parallel. True in state of nature no property, as no laws, all men equal, but fall of man had needed civil law & human law: property justified during continuance of present evil world, private ownership