

gentleman on board, who had served on a gunboat during the war, told us that the homesteads were destroyed only when hostile demonstrations were made. It is evident that hostile feeling must have been very common. Our steamer made delivery of supplies at several places to-day—meal, corn, pork, hay, etc. It appears to be the universal practice, where cotton grows, to give up the lands entirely to its cultivation, as being so much more profitable than the growing of breadstuffs. The effect must reduce the planter sometimes to inconvenience when, as at the present time, boats are few on the river, and landing in many places inconvenient; whilst he is at all times, I should think, in an unpleasant state of dependence for these simple necessities of life. We landed on an estate in a good state of preservation, where we walked up to the levee—the bulwark formed to keep out the river in its spring gambols. It appears strange to the traveller who has toiled up a steep bank from the deck of the steamer, that these barriers should ever be necessary; but the variations in the river are very great, and these guards are indispensable to the occupant of the ground. They are a work of much labour, their permanence and efficiency being in proportion to the breadth and height and compactness of their formation; that upon which we stood was about six feet high, with a good carriage road on top, and an easy, sloping, grassy bank on each side. The levee is, of course, built at some distance from the present bed of the river; but, from the constant encroachment of the river upon its banks, it is very necessary to guard the levees with watchful care, so that the first breach may be mended, and with additional resisting power. But it is one of the many results of the state of war, that vast breaches have been made, and have gone on increasing without any effort to stay or to repair them; and it is apparent that during two years of peace little has been done to stop the continuous process of ruin and decay. It is difficult, indeed, to discover so far

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