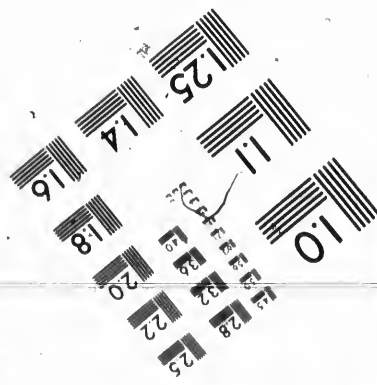
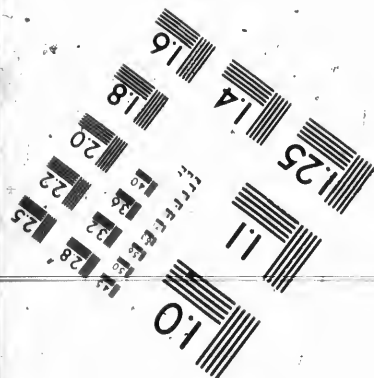
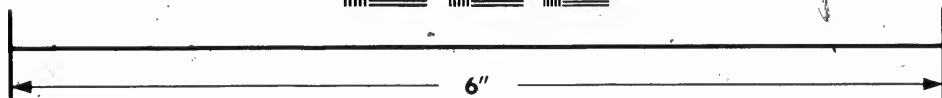
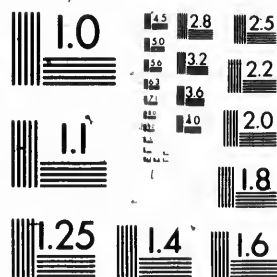


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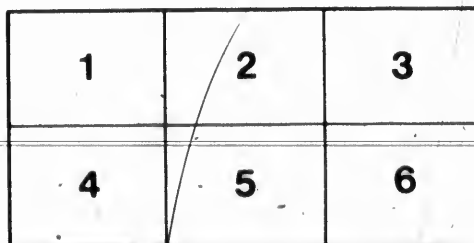
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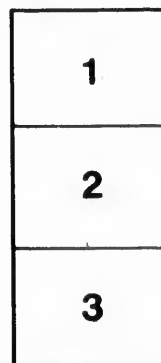
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TRADESMAN'S TRAVELS,
IN THE
UNITED STATES AND CANADA,
IN THE YEARS
1840, 41, & 42.

By WILLIAM THOMSON,
STONEHAVEN.

EDINBURGH:
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LEWIS SMITH, ABERDEEN; & WILLM. JOHNSTON, STONEHAVEN.

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CONTENTS.

INTRODUCTION,	Page.
					1

CHAPTER I.

MANNERS AND CUSTOMS IN THE SOUTH.

Boarding-houses . Hotels . Mechanics' boarding-house . Cleanly habits . Wages . A planters' family . Mode of treating strangers . Paternal kindness . Grave-yards . Burials . Sabbath observance . Duels . Manners of mechanics . Respect to ladies . Primitive mode of agriculture.	13
--	-----	----	-----	----

CHAPTER II.

MANNERS AND CUSTOMS IN THE NORTH AND WEST.

Manners of children . Their politeness . Mode of treating them . Marriage . Divorces . Absurdities in dress . Anti-corset Societies . Premature decay . Food of children . Mode of addressing each other . Superstition . Swearing . Wood fires . Modesty of women . Disbelievers in Christianity . Chewing tobacco . Snuffing . Baking bread . Washing clothes . Substitute for blankets . A quilting . In-	
--	--

congruity in dress . Pronunciation of states and cities . Cripples . Seamstresses . Newspapers . Town criers.	Page. 1 27
--	------------------

CHAPTER III.

TRAVELLING.

Roads . Railroads . Expense of travelling in the south . Class of people who travel . Their appearance and manners . Travelling in the north and west . Steamers on the Hudson . Passengers . Rate of Steaming . Emigrants . Canal travelling . Erie Canal . Cities and towns . Expense . Different classes of boats . Buying provisions by the way . Ohio Canal . Towns . Overcharges . Shooting . Crossing over to Canada . Sailing on the Lakes . Steam-boats on the Ohio and Mississippi . Charges . Manners of deck passengers . Advice to emigrants going out to the western states . Changing money, &c. &c. ..	41
--	----

CHAPTER IV.

FARMING IN THE STATES.

Duchess County, State of New York . Mode of travelling . Beauty of the country . Original proprietors . Size of farms . Price of land . Value of money invested in land . Mr Ferguson's notions . Farmers compared with those in Kincardineshire . Frequent removals . Houses . Mr Mitchell's farm and mode of living . Working in the harvest field . Labourers' wages . Thrashing machines . State of Ohio . Price of land . Crops . Appearance of
--

CONTENTS.

Page.	Page.
the country . Rooting out stumps . A Sunday in the back woods . Farmers at market . Price of produce . Description of a farmer . Wrong ideas of the value of land.	65

CHAPTER V.

FARMING IN CANADA.

Opinions of the farmers as to their comfort . Fatherland . Bestage to emigrate . Removals . Unhealthy situations . Decrease in the value of land . Supremacy of the laws . Comparison . An improvident settler and his family . An industrious one . Commencing without any capital . A very successful farmer . To prevent hens from scratching up garden-seeds . Ignorance of back settlers . Flour-mills . Saw-mills . Raising a log-house . Field-preaching . The appearance of the people.	91
--	----

CHAPTER VI.

MANUFACTURES IN THE STATES.

Improved Machinery . Capital employed in cotton-manufactures . Manufacturing states . Quantity of wool grown . Quality . Price . Cotton Mills in the southern states . Factory at Vacluce, South Carolina . Wages . Belvel factory, in Georgia . Mode of raising a water-fall . Black hands . Wages . Hours of work . Manner of employers to their workmen . Lowell Cotton-mills . Power-looms . Quantity of cloth made . Hands employed . Woollen-mills . Machine-shop . Factory girls . Wages . Price of provisions . Clothing . Condenser . Wages at Thompsonville	
---	--

	Page
carpet-work, Connecticut . Manufactures in Jersey .	
Manufactures in the state of New York . Country	
customer work . Mode of payment . Manner of	
living . Country customer weavers . Clouty carpets .	
Mills at Rochester . Genessee falls . Manufactures	
in Ohio . Cincinnati . Wages . Tradesmen's board-	
ing-house . Plenty of beef . Prospects of the manu-	
facturing community.	109

CHAPTER VII.

MANUFACTURES IN CANADA.

Wool Mills in Lower Canada . Charges . Mills in	
Upper Canada . Wages . Price of Machinery .	
Water Power and Mills at Niagara Falls . Uniform-	
ity in the heights of the River . Wool Carding .	
Mode of Payment . A customer weaver . Number	
of domestic looms . Improved spinning wheel . Emi-	
gration of weavers.	139

CHAPTER VIII.

MOBS.

Spirit of licentiousness . Carelessness of human life	
. A son telling that his father was a murderer . A	
mysterious circumstance, involving loss of life,	
excites little interest . Influence of public opinion	
on judges . A murder committed openly, in a bar-	
room in New Orleans . Stabbing, fighting, and	
gouging . Mode of killing people quietly . Lax	
administration of the laws . A man taken out of	
prison and hanged before his trial . Gang of mur-	
derers and swindlers on the Mississippi . A judge	

put into prison by a mob, for offering to accept bail
for a prisoner . An abolition Mob . A bank mob in
Cincinnati, five banks gutted . Risk I ran of a visit
from Judge Lynch. 194

CHAPTER IX.

SLAVERY.

Baptizing slaves . Their behaviour . Appearance in the
Church . Ideas of religion . Sacrament of the
Supper . Their dress . Anecdote of a slave and a
ram at church . Politeness . Marriages . Separation
of families . Shops for the sale of negroes . Value of
slaves . Treatment of old slaves after they are un-
able to work . Old Saw threatened with the whip .
Trial of a slave who murdered his master . Negro
houses . Negro funk . Stated tasks . House servants
. Whipping with the cow-skin . Humanity of the
planters . Abolition . Cheerfulness of the slaves .
Factory slave of England . Kindly feeling of the
native Planters . Comparison of the American
slaves and the British. 173

CHAPTER X.

RELIGION.

Table, showing the number of churches, ministers,
and members of churches in the United States .
Comparison of the number of churches in British
and American cities . Handsome and comfortable
churches . Manners of the ministers . Their dress .
Building churches . Fanaticism . Mormons, or
Latter-Day Saints . General view of the state of
religion. 197

CHAPTER XI.

STATISTICS.

Government . Election of President . Congress .	
House of Representatives . Compensation of Mem-	
bers of Congress . Compensation of the Executive	
. Legislature of New Hampshire, of Ohio, New	
York, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina . The	
Ballot . Careless exercise of political privileges .	
Opposition of trades-people to the penitentiary	
system . Education . Population of the principal	
cities . State debts . City debts . Naval power .	
Regular army . Militia . Revenue and expenditure	
. Number of slaves . Pork . Quantity of wheat	
grown, of barley, oats, rye, buck wheat, Indian	
corn, and potatoes . Exports . Quantity of public	
land sold . Rate of interest . Number of people	
employed in mining, agriculture, manufactures,	
&c. Table of population.	207

CHAPTER XII.

CONCLUSION,	223
-------------------	-----

INTRODUCTION.

HAVING lately travelled through the United States: and, although I am but an humble tradesman, I do not know any good reason why I should not follow the fashion of greater men, and write a book. Not that I expect to produce anything of value in a literary point of view. To this I make no pretensions whatever; but having mixed with the mass of the people, having been employed in different parts of the Union and in Upper Canada, having eaten with them, and sat down at their firesides—sometimes living amongst tradesmen and mechanics, and sometimes amongst farmers—I devoted my attention principally to the col-

lection of information on the actual condition of the farmers and tradesmen—what they eat, drink, and what they wear; and seeing that the numerous books that have been written on the subject do not descend far enough into the scale of society, do not enter closely enough into the *minutiæ* of every-day life, to convey anything like a correct idea of the condition of those who have to toil for their daily subsistence, I purpose to make this my task. And, if truthfulness and the absence of all interested motives are any recommendations, I am entitled to the benefit of them. I do not propose to make a regular book, nor to give a personal narrative of my travels through the great republic; for I am individually of no value to the public. Neither shall I occupy the time of those who may read this with anything about myself, farther than to shew my opportunities of collecting the following observations.

Being threatened with a pulmonary disease,

I was advised to go to a warmer climate, as the only chance of prolonging life; and, having two brothers in South Carolina, it was agreed that I should go out there.

I left Stonehaven in a very weak state, in the month of August, 1840; sailed from Liverpool and arrived at Charleston, after a six weeks' passage, much improved in health—having felt considerable relief in breathing after we got into the warm latitudes. I took up my abode with my brothers, in Beaufort, a handsome little town, about sixty miles from Charleston, taking exercise, and improving in health daily,—spitting of blood, an inveterate cough, and all the other symptoms of my disease leaving me, one after the other. By the month of February, I felt myself quite well; but as it was considered necessary that I should remain another year in America (so that my newly-recovered health might be confirmed) I resolved to travel through the principal parts of the

Union ; and partly as a matter of economy, and partly as a matter of choice, I prepared to travel as a working man, stopping a few weeks here and there, in the different states, working at anything I could get to do, in order that I might have better opportunities of ascertaining the real state of the people.

As it was yet rather early in the season to go to the Northern States, I was advised by some medical friends, to make an excursion through the states of North and South Carolina and Georgia, and then go north as the summer advanced. This plan pleased me well, as there were a number of manufactories in these states that I wished to see ; and besides I was desirous of making more extensive observations on the condition of the negro slaves than I hitherto had the means of doing—being well aware of the false impressions that are frequently circulated, by drawing general inferences from particular cases.

I accordingly left Beaufort towards the end of February, 1831, going by Charleston, then up the country 120 miles by the South Carolina railroad,—before I commenced my wanderings spending my time sometimes amongst farmers and cotton-planters, at others about the cotton-mills. After spending seven weeks in different parts of the above-mentioned states, I returned to Beaufort by Savannah, going down to the low country by the Savannah River.

After remaining there a short time I started for the Northern States, arriving in New York about the middle of June, where I remained till the great 4th of July, making two excursions up the North River, as I found it more pleasant than living in the city, and nearly as cheap as boarding—the fares at that time being very low. The only shadow of disappointment I felt on the day of rejoicing was, that I could not find an *Old Country* Tory, to see how he

would look amidst the liberty poles that overtopped the houses in every street—amid the glitter of *armed citizens*—amid the general rejoicings of hundreds of thousands of freemen, glorying in the name of democracy, and spending their money in thousands to demonstrate their joy.

I visited two small woollen-factories at West Farms, near New York, after which I went up the country to Dutchess County, where I was employed a few weeks at a country carding-mill. The harvest coming on, I went about amongst the farmers, going as far north as the state of Connecticut, working in the field with different farmers,—not, indeed, as a thoroughbred “huke;” but I was willing; and after a while, I was able to use the cradle scythe for a day, or half a day, at a time, without being laughed at.

I then left this part of the country for

Upper Canada, going up the river to Albany, along the Erie Canal to Buffalo, stopping at different places—being in a slow boat—especially where there were any mills or public works, enquiring for employment; not that I wanted it at this time, but just to know if I could find it, if I was so inclined. I then crossed over to Canada, going by the Falls, where I intended only to stay a few hours, but I was so fascinated with this almighty work, that I remained two days, spending one on each side.

I arrived in Toronto on the fifth September: after viewing the city, I went out to the River Humber, and wrought three weeks at a country carding and spinning mill; I next went to a similar establishment, at a small town that was commenced only four years ago, called Burrwick. Here, as at other places where I was employed, the people came to get their wool carded: I therefore had excellent oppor-

tunities of ascertaining their opinions : and as my principal object was to get information, I let no opportunity escape. I here visited some field preachings and the raising of two log huts. Wherever I went I entered the houses of the settlers with a freedom that made me feel that I was rather impudent ; but after a while I felt no more compunction than an old gaberlunzie would ; and I never got an uncivil answer to a civil question.

By this time the weather was getting rather cold ; and, as I had no wish to remain longer in Canada, I resolved to go to the Western States, where so many were crowding to ; if it were only to see what they were doing.

Having thus far given a sample of my mode of travelling, I will not detail the particular incidents that occurred to me in my tour to the West and down through the Southern States, along the valley of the Mississippi.

In following out the plan I proposed to myself, I may merely mention, that I left Canada on the 21st of October, 1841 ; visiting successively the States of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, and Missouri ; likewise the States of Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana. I do not mean to say that I had opportunities of making observations in these latter, as the only chance I had was in passing down the Mississippi, when we stopped to take in freight or wood, and in reality there is little to interest a traveller for a thousand miles above New Orleans, till the sugar plantations begin to enliven the banks of the great Father of Waters.

The principal part of my time was spent in Columbus, in Ohio, which is the capital of the state, where I visited the state prison ; and in Cincinnati, the queen city of the West, where I was employed some time as a wool-spinner. There I mixed a good deal amongst

the people—attending public meetings, lectures, preachings, mobs, &c. ; became a member of the Washington Temperance Society and the Working Men's Association. The object of these and similar institutions I may speak of when I come to take notice of the social condition of the people.

After having spent upwards of four months in this section of the Union, I arrived in New Orleans on the 1st of March, 1842, where I remained seven days—visiting the battle ground, and everything about the city that did not cost money to get a sight of. I then took shipping for Florida, remaining two days in Key West ; sailed again for Savannah, from thence to Beaufort, in South Carolina ; and, after bidding my brothers and a number of kind friends good by, I sailed for Liverpool, in the “John Ker,” of Greenock, on the 25th of April, and arrived in Stonehaven on the 28th of May, 1842, in good health.

Such is an outline of my route, and the principal places I visited ;—having travelled, within the territories of the United States and Upper Canada, upwards of 5000 miles—mixing with all classes, with perfect freedom, both in their work and their amusements. Having been bred to the wool-manufacturing business, I hope the facts I have collected, and my observations on the manufactories of the country, will be both useful and interesting to those who, like myself, have been brought up to a business that affords so precarious a living in this over-peopled country.

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CHAPTER I.

MANNERS AND CUSTOMS.

Boarding-houses—Hotels—Mechanics' boarding-house—
Cleanly habits—Wages—A planter's family—Mode of
treating strangers—Paternal kindness—Grave-yards—
Burials—Sabbath observance—Duels—Manners of me-
chanics—Respect to ladies—Primitive mode of agri-
culture.

ON the domestic manners of the Americans I will be very brief. So many writers having failed to do justice to the subject, I have not the vanity to suppose that I will succeed. To say that the people are polite and genteel in their manners, is what every one is aware of. In the Carolinas and Georgia, where I spent the winter and spring of 1840 and 1841, the custom of young married people of moderate circumstances, living in boarding-houses, is very common. In a private boarding-house they can have more elegant and comfortable living for from four to six dollars than they could have for nearly twice that sum if they kept house for themselves—house-rent and negro

servants being so high. In Beaufort, where I lived six or seven weeks in a house of this kind, I had everything very nice and comfortable for five dollars a week. People who have been used to this way of living feel quite at home, fondling the children, and sometimes each other, with almost the freedom of domestic privacy, but never overstepping the bounds of propriety or good taste. But these and public hotels have been often described, and I shall only mention the charges I paid in some of the places I lived at in this district of the Union, where, in the absence of a middle class of society, a poor man like me has to subject himself to the same expense in travelling as the rich. In Charleston, at the Planters' Hotel, one dollar and a half per day. In Augusta (Georgia), for the first two or three days, at the Eagle and Phoenix Hotel, I paid two dollars per day. This would not do with me, as I intended to settle for some time, and I looked for a boarding-house, such as mechanics lived at, but could not get anything like a decent place for less than five dollars a week. In this house were tailors, policemen, coopers—ten or twelve alto-

gether. Single bed-rooms for the most part. There was a large room for eating in, which had no pretention to elegance. One of the boarders was an Englishman, a journeyman tailor, who came out about five years ago, with only one coat; now he has plenty, sports a gold watch, and a silver-headed cane; sat at one end of the table, the lady of the house at the other. I have never seen the same propriety of conduct and gentlemanly manners amongst the same class of persons in my own country. Tea and coffee were used at breakfast and supper, and water at dinner. At every meal there is abundance of beef, pork, ham, tongues, bread, homony, waafel cakes, cucumbers, fresh in season or pickled. It is very rare to see soup at an American table. Good knives and forks, and clean. I observed that the willow pattern of plates and dishes is about as common in the States as in this country. Every one rises from table as soon as he has swallowed a few mouthfuls, for they are not great eaters. The general hour for breakfast is between six and seven o'clock, and tradesmen always eat before going out to work; dinner

between twelve and one ; and supper at six in the evening. Tradesmen here are very clean in their habits, generally washing before they come to table ; and it is rare to see even a speck of dirt below the nails of their fingers. Their shirts are generally made without collars ; but they have moveable collars, or "dickies," which they renew two or three times a week, and are always tidy and clean. In their bedrooms they have their brushes, combs, &c., and perform their toilet with considerable care. These remarks apply to mechanics ; and this term, in the American vocabulary, applies to all tradesmen. In the southern cities, where labour is high, a tailor can make twelve dollars a week, if a good hand ; and bricklayers, blacksmiths, and carpenters, from one and a half to two dollars a day. But stout, healthy young men, that come from the northern states and from Europe, for the sake of high wages, are wilted and withered up in a few years, like a "pinthewiddy."

I will now describe a planter's house in the State of Georgia, about eight miles from Augusta, who owned a manufacturing esta-

blishment, to whom I went in search of employment. It was a handsome, but not large frame house, with everything in good taste about it. I went up to the front door, and asked if Judge Sley was at home: a lady answered "No, that he was on his circuit (he was a district judge), and that it would be some days before he returned." She shewed me into an elegantly-furnished room; I then told the lady, who was the judge's wife, my name, and that I was a wool-carder and spinner, wanting employment. A lady in her circumstances in this country, would very quickly have changed her manners on such a piece of information; but such was not the case here. I was treated with the greatest consideration and unobtrusive politeness, and desired to make myself at home, and remain with them till the judge returned, which he did in a few days. His reception, after a fortnight's absence, is worthy of notice. The old lady caught hold of him first, and kissed him; the daughters, handsome grown-up ladies, put their arms about his neck and hugged him, the younger ones scrambling to get at him; and, what struck me

as most remarkable, two of the house-servants, negroes, black as Erebus, made a bold push at the old gentleman, holding out their hands, which he shook heartily, with kind words of inquiry after their health. I was pleased, too, with my reception, and could not help drawing a comparison between his manner to me, and the hauteur and indifference I have experienced when asking for employment from gentlemen in similar circumstances in this country. In speaking, he treated me with perfect equality, called me "Mr. Thomson," said "Yes, Sir," or "No, Sir," just as I would do, in speaking to a gentleman I held in high estimation. I sat at the same table. The young ladies played on the piano, and sung Scotch songs. The old gentleman, too, sung "Scots wha hae" with great spirit. And all this, not to please, and make comfortable, a gentleman who could repay them in kind, but to a stranger seeking employment, not fashionably dressed, but clean and decent. I have travelled and wrought in the principal manufacturing districts of England and Scotland, but never had a tithe of the kindness and consideration shown me that I

had here. And this was not a solitary instance: on another occasion, in the State of South Carolina, I applied to Colonel Beausket, who has a cotton and woollen-manufactory at Vauluce, about 100 miles from Charleston. On calling on him at his house, near Charleston, I received the same consideration and politeness. It was in the evening when I called, and he was at home, in the midst of his family. Under such circumstances in this country, I would have been told to call again. Here I was immediately shown into the parlour, and seated in the family circle. He told me he could not employ me, but that as I wished to go up the country, I might stop at his place, and see the establishment, which I will take notice of when I come to speak of the manufactories of America. It was something new to me to be treated with such attention by those from whom I was seeking work. This gentleman being about to return that evening to the city, asked me to ride down with him in his carriage; and as it was now dark, I gladly accepted his offer. I may here mention, that a few days after I went up the country to

the manufactory, where I remained a week, and received the same hospitality from the manager.

While endeavouring to illustrate the manners of the people of this section of the country, by stating these facts, I will here notice what generally applies to the whole community, viz., the kindly manner of parents to their children, and the affectionate and respectful conduct of children to their parents. In this country there is not a shadow of the distant and reserved manner of the poorer and middle classes of Scotland to their children. I have sometimes envied the kisses that were imprinted on old wrinkled brows by sweet young girls, as they said "Good night, pa." "Good night, my daughter," replies the old man.

The character of the southern states, for hospitality, stands high, and it is not over-rated. They are quite a distinct race from the "Yankees." They have a high sense of honour; treating every white man as a gentleman, but rigidly exacting the same respect in return; and although many young men carry bowie-knives, sword-canes, or pistols, after I knew

them I felt myself as safe from injury or outrage as in my own house. In short, the society in this part of the country was the most agreeable I ever associated with. In passing along the streets or crowded thoroughfares of the cities, it would be a rare circumstance if any one should jostle or accidentally come against you without making an apology. Ladies are treated on all occasions with great deference and respect. Amidst many instances that came under my observation, I will mention one: I was inquiring if there were any letters for me at the post-office in Augusta. At the same time that I went up to the opening at which the clerk was standing, a woman came up, but rather after than before me; however, I spoke first, and I was civilly desired to wait till the lady was attended to; and I am sure it was neither her dress nor her youth and beauty that gave her precedence, for she was not rich in any of these.

The burying-grounds of the cities are generally large, and the monuments and headstones are mostly of white marble, executed in good taste, much better than that which dis-

tates the epitaphs, most of which have scraps of poetry. Judging the character of by-gone generations from the stories on their tombs, they must have been a heavenly-minded race,—the most affectionate husbands and wives, distinguished citizens, in short, far superior to the present race.

The custom of inviting people to a funeral is by giving notice in the newspapers, to the friends and acquaintances of the deceased, stating the hour and place of meeting. A few of the friends go into the house, but only some of those more immediately concerned—the others remaining at the door. They keep their time of lifting to a minute. In towns all ride in carriages; but they are not particular in their dress;—some will have white hats; some blue, some white coats, very few black,—no particular dress. The friends and relations wear a piece of crape on their hat, and a band of the same round their arm. It is customary, when a death occurs in a house, to tie a piece of crape to the knocker of the door. When a shopkeeper dies or any near connection, so that good feeling and propriety requires them to

shut up their place of business, a piece of crape is also fastened there. In most of the southern states the Sabbath is observed with great propriety, except in New Orleans, where the French fashion is followed.

On Sunday, when I was there, most of the principal places of business were shut up. Those of the middle class made a sort of a compromise with the day of rest, like our apothecaries. All the innumerable small stores and bar-rooms were driving a good trade,—while crowds of gally-dressed ladies and gentlemen were hurrying out in carriages and by the railway cars to the race-course, to enjoy the exciting pleasures of the turf. All over the country, men of business and mechanics consider themselves men of honour; but more especially in the south, where they more frequently resent any indignity shown them, even at the expense of their life, or that of those who venture to insult them. Duels and assassinations frequently occur. This is much to be deplored: but the effect of it is to render the people very polite and gentlemanly in their

manners. Men of business and mechanics, when they pass each other in the streets, instead of the ridiculous custom of telling each other what kind of a day it is, pass with a bow, a wave of the hand, or "How do you do?" always lifting the hat to ladies. I have observed a crowd of men of different classes looking at the windows of a printseller's store, stand by and give ample room for a lady, on her expressing, by the slightest motion, a desire to see the pictures in the window.

A lady, whether she is well dressed or not, on going into the most crowded church, is as sure of a good seat as if the church was empty. The well-dressed and pretty ones are most assiduously served. On extraordinary occasions I have seen them come in, group after group, until they almost crowded the gentlemen out of the house altogether. I do not remember to have seen a lady carried out of church sick. The reason, I suppose, is, the houses are more roomy and better ventilated. Fans are in general use. They sit very quiet in church; and wealthy people do not consider it the

height of good breeding to come in, disturbing all the congregation, after the service has commenced.

In the south, except steam-boats and railroads, there is hardly such a thing as a labour-saving machine. The negroes cultivate the land with hoes, and grind the corn for bread in hand-mills. The country is so level, that there is no water-power. It does not appear they have made any improvement in agriculture since the days of Solomon. On Mr. Milne's plantation, on Beaufort Island, I have seen twelve or fourteen negroes all thrashing together on one floor, making their flails fly about in dangerous proximity to each other's heads—looking very like a battle of Indians or a row at Donnybrook fair.

CHAPTER II.

MANNERS AND CUSTOMS.

Manners of children—Their politeness—Mode of treating them—Marriage—Divorces—Absurdities in dress—Anti-corset Societies—Premature decay—Food of children—Mode of addressing each other—Superstition—Swearing—Wood fires—Modesty of women—Disbelievers in Christianity—Chewing tobacco—Snuffing—Baking bread—Washing clothes—Substitute for blankets—A quilting—Incongruity in dress—Pronunciation of states and cities—Cripples—Seamstresses—Newspapers—Town criers.

THE manners in the north and west do not differ very materially from those in the south ; yet the state of society is very different in the slaveholding and free states. In the former the blacks do all the hard work, whereas, in the latter the state of society more resembles that in this country, with this exception, that working men are more upon an equality with that class of society who live not by the sweat of the brow ; and their houses are more comfortable, and their children more polite. I was forcibly struck with the difference in the manners of

children. In passing through Glasgow on my return home, I was looking at James Watt's monument, when a little girl, about ten years of age, came up to me, and said, "Man, can ye tell me whaur aboot Brig Street is?" Under similar circumstances, an American child of the very poorest class—even a young negro—would have said, "Please, sir," &c.

There is a very absurd custom amongst the working classes of Scotland. If a man tries to speak the English language with propriety, or teach his children to be polite and good mannered, he is laughed at by his neighbours. I do not complain of the use of old-fashioned words or provincial phrases—children may be taught to be polite and to express themselves in any language—it is the sentiment conveyed that I look to; and I think we are far behind the Americans in our mode of cultivating the intellectual faculties of children. As far as I had opportunities of observing, children are farther advanced in useful and practical knowledge than those of the same age and under similar circumstances in this country are. They do not whip children much, but treat them as

if they were rational beings ; and they are repaid with many fond endearments and the confidence of the children.

Marriage is a legal contract ; and it is nearly as difficult to get rid of a bad wife as it is in this country, although several of the state legislatures, on the petition of the wife, grant a divorce when the husband is a drunkard, or deserts his family. In most of the states, when the husband or wife is sentenced to the state prison, a divorce can be obtained, if the innocent party chooses to take advantage of it. At a late session of the New Hampshire legislature the following provision, regulating divorces from the bonds of matrimony, was enacted.

“ That divorces from the bonds of matrimony shall be decreed in favour of the innocent party, when the other shall be convicted for a felony, and actually imprisoned for the same ; or when the other shall become a habitual drunkard, and so continue for the space of three years ; or having become a habitual drunkard, and so continue to be for such further space of time, not less than one year, as to amount to three years ; or when either party

shall so treat the other as seriously to injure health or endanger reason ; or when the conduct of either party shall be so gross, wicked, and repugnant to the marriage covenant as to occasion the separation of the other for the space of three years."

It is generally known that marriages are contracted earlier in life in America than in perhaps any other country—fifteen to eighteen years is a very common age. Many ladies are married even before they arrive at that early age. The girls are good-looking, and free from affectation ; in general slight and delicate in their form. They wear bustles and stays, and light thin shoes, following all the absurdities in dress of older and more foolish nations. Some of the worst practices may be abolished in the course of time. There are several "anti-corset societies," besides tee-total societies opposed to the use of tobacco and tea. These have not made much progress, nor attracted much notice. I have heard many public speakers on moral reform declare that, as soon as they can conquer the great master-evil, *intemperance*, they will set their face against every absurd

custom; for they have no love for anything merely because *it is old*.

I have said the girls are good-looking: but they have not the stamina to stand the tear and wear of every-day life. After having three or four children, they fade and wither away. It is rare to see a hale *old wife* stepping about for a quarter of a century after rearing a large family, enjoying the sight and prattle of her children's children. They have made great progress in developing the mental faculties of youth, but very little in cultivating the physical powers.

Very little children have their place at table, their tea and coffee, and a little bit of chicken. "Will you have a little bit of ham, Anne, my dear?" says an affectionate mother to her little daughter, that can hardly lisp "Yes, ma'am." I used to tell them how they reared the buirdly chieils and strapping lasses in Scotland; and they could scarcely believe that the strong and healthy emigrants they are accustomed to see arriving from the "Old Country" did not get their *sairin* of beef, except perhaps once a

year, such as at Christmas, or some other set time.

I think if the men of America and those of Britain were to have a fight, it might be an even bet who would win; but if the ladies were to take up the quarrel, "my conscience!" what a whipping the Transatlantic ladies would get. There are *wives* in Stonehaven that I would back against a dozen of them.

Amongst the working classes it is common, when about the same age, to call each other "brother;" or if one is older than the other, he will call him "uncle," or if very old, "grandfather." Little boys and girls call each other "bub" and "sis," contractions for brother and sister. A mother calling to her little girl will say "Come here, my daughter;" or it may be "Come here, my son," or "Go away, sonne." The dress of children is much the same as in this country. The girls wear breeches, or what they call pantanets, very commonly. The roundabout jacket is not much worn by boys. The most common dress is a very neat coat of the surtout species, made of material to

suit the season. In the different houses where I lived, when opportunity offered, I frequently introduced some stories about ghosts. Some I told so frequently that I almost began to believe them myself, although my only object was to learn whether the people had any tinge of superstition in them; and I found that, although generally professing to disbelieve in anything supernatural, and although not well versed in the poetry of fairies and bogles, they have their superstitions and their ghost stories as well as people in the same degree of intelligence in this country.

The abominable custom of swearing is universal—not indeed in the more polished circles, or before ladies—but on the whole it is more common than in Scotland. The most fashionable oath is “By Jesus Christ;” and this sacred name is used as an exclamation either of surprise, of joy, or anger. Many are so fond of swearing that they will put in an oath in the most nonsensical way. For instance, if one is determined to take his own way, he will tell you “I guess I can do as I *damned* please.” This is nearly equal to the Scotch gentleman,

who managed to put an oath in the *middle* of a word ; when his clerk, in making a circumflex, turned it the wrong way, he exclaimed "How now, Charles ; what the devil kind of a *circum* hell of a *flex* is that ?" They have introduced a number of new words. These I omit taking notice of, as they are pretty well known. In their houses they have rocking arm-chairs, that are a real luxury. Their fire-places, when they use wood, are without grates ; instead of which they have "fire-dogs"—two angular pieces of iron, sometimes handsomely mounted with brass, on which they pile the fire-wood. These irons answer the purpose remarkably well ; and I liked the wood fires better than coal. I was once asked what kind of fire-wood there was in Scotland. When I told them there was nothing but coal and turf, they were surprised, and said it must be a poor country in which there was no fire-wood.

I never saw a woman going without shoes. And as for the process of tramping clothes in a tub, it is doubtful if ever such a sight was exhibited at any burn-side or washing-green in all that wide country. If it were to take place,

I suppose the authorities would interfere, in the same way as they do to prevent boys bathing within sight of any public thoroughfare.

Neither young nor married ladies wear caps or *mitches*, except when they get very old and grey. They follow the English fashion of putting on a bonnet whenever they go out, the same as a man puts on his hat. There are few illegitimate children *see the light*. I have seen in one quarter of an hour, in the Saltmarket of Glasgow, more vagabond-looking women than I have seen in all my travels through the United States.

There are many honest respectable people all over the country, who do not believe in Christianity, nor make any pretensions to it; yet this does not appear to hurt their standing in society. On Sunday they will sing songs, sew, or amuse themselves; but seldom work out of doors, except sometimes in the harvest season; and then I have seen a lot of young men meet together and go and cut down a field of wheat for a farmer who was behind with his work.

The men are most inveterate chewers of tobacco; but it is rare to meet with a snuffer,

unless it be an old Scotsman. Some of the ladies use snuff; but, instead of snuffing it, they *eat* it. Gold watches, chains, and breast-pins are very common; and they frequently descend in the scale of wealth as low as mechanics. Most families bake their own bread, and make their own yeast: and, instead of the meal cask that has its appropriate corner in the Scotch mechanic's house, they send to the store for a barrel of flour; when it is empty they break it up, burn it, and send for another. In the south, Indian corn is the principal bread stuff; in Canada and the northern states, flour-bread is the principal. In the different states there are different modes of cooking and baking, with great variety of roots, vegetables, and fruit. One thing I found common to all the different sections of the country I visited—that there was always *plenty*.

The women use a simple machine in washing clothes, which, from the universality of its application, I think must be of considerable use. It consists of a piece of board about fifteen to twenty inches square, grooved or fluted on one side, and placed in a standing position in the

wash-tub, the grooved side uppermost. Now, instead of rubbing the cloth between the hands, as women usually do, they press it down on this board with all the weight of the shoulders, added to muscular exertion—rubbing it cross-wise over the fluted side of it. And this, I was told, was easier for the hands, and, on the whole, a great improvement on the old plan. This I know, it is in universal use. Cotton quilts are in common use; and they are a very good and cheap substitute for blankets. In making them, I observed, in Canada, a custom analogous to some of our old-fashioned Scottish modes of spending the long winter evenings. The young lasses, and the lads too, are invited to a “quilting” in a neighbour’s house; the coverlid is stretched upon a slight frame; the lasses sit all round about it, busy with their needles, and the lads bother them and hinder them. Sometimes in a dark corner they will “pree the bonny mou’, unseen that night.” In cities and fashionable places the people are nearly as much under the tyranny of fashion as in other countries; but, in general, they shew great independence of custom—wearing all

sorts of coats, and the most outrageously-shaped hats. I have observed great incongruity of dress. It is no uncommon thing to see a gentleman with an old torn coat, and a gold watch and chain worth 200 dollars.

There is greater uniformity in pronunciation than in Britain; and they speak the English language in greater purity. The pronunciation of the names of some states and rivers is different from that which generally obtains amongst strangers. Vermont is accented on the last syllable—*Ver-mōnt*; Massachusetts is pronounced as it is spelt—*Mass-a-chus-etts*; Connecticut—*Con-é-ticut*; Mississippi—the last letter fully sounded, and pronounced as in *pine*; Arkansas—*Ark-an-saw*; Tennessee—*Tenn-ess-é*; Ohio—*O-high-ó*; Michigan—*Mish-é-gan*; Illinois is pronounced variously—sometimes as it is spelt, and sometimes *Ill-é-noi*. The rivers Mississippi, Ohio, &c. are pronounced the same as the state, to which they stand in the relation of godfather. The Potomac—*Pot-ó-mac*, the *o* by itself being strongly accented; Niagara—the second syllable being accented and pronounced *Ni-á-gara*. Cities

and towns with French names are variously pronounced; sometimes after what I suppose to be the French mode, but more generally after the English fashion: for instance, Louisville is sometimes called *Louivill*; New Orleans—*New Orlean*; Detroit—*Detroi*; but in general it is *New Orleans* and *Detroit*.

I met with only one case of stammering; remarkably few cripples or maimed persons; and was only once asked for charity.

Unmarried women can generally make a living with the needle, or even at washing and dressing. What we call seamstress they call tailoress. In many parts they will get a dollar for making a shirt, that would bring them in this country only one shilling and sixpence. The charges for washing are from two shillings and sixpence to three shillings per dozen articles of gentlemen's wear. I have paid higher; but these are the charges for regular customers. There is scarcely such a thing as a mangle.

Newspapers and periodicals are much read. In the United States there are 126 daily papers, and 1,555 other periodicals. A city like Aberdeen, instead of having two or three weekly

papers, would have at least two daily ones, and five or six periodicals of one kind or another. There is no tax on newspapers. The postage is only one cent per hundred miles, or one cent and a half for any distance. In cities the daily papers of the smaller size are sold for one cent per copy, and they are quite large enough for comfortable reading. They are used as a medium for conveying all kinds of information to the public. They have town criers; but they are not called into requisition unless on some sudden emergency, such as a lost child; when, instead of going drawling about the town with a bell or a drum, they are mounted on a fleet horse, and go galloping along the streets, stopping now and then, making the streets resound again with the good old-fashioned O yes!—O yes!—O yes!

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CHAPTER III.

TRAVELLING.

Roads—Railroads—Expense of travelling in the south—
Class of people who travel—Their appearance and
manners—Travelling in the north and west—Steamers
on the Hudson—Passengers—Rate of Steaming—
Emigrants—Canal travelling—Erie Canal—Cities and
towns—Expense—Different classes of boats—Buying
provisions by the way—Ohio Canal—Towns—Over-
charges—Shooting—Crossing over to Canada—Sailing
on the Lakes—Steam-boats on the Ohio and Missis-
sippi—Charges—Manners of deck passengers—Advice
to emigrants going out to the western states—Changing
money, &c.

MANY travellers complain of the bad roads in
America, and not without reason. The internal
parts of the country are badly supplied in this
respect. This is to be expected, from the extent
of the country, and the absence, in most places,
of good material for making them. But the
state of inland communication in the United
States is not to be judged of by turnpike roads,
which is the old-fashioned mode of conveyance.
And although immense sums have been ex-

pendent on their national roads—some of which would encompass our island—these are but the byways; the highways are to be found in their canals, navigable rivers, and railroads; and of these last they have 4,000 miles in operation—about double the number of miles that are in use in Great Britain—altogether forming a system of internal communication unparalleled in any country.

The expense of travelling varies much in different sections of the country. In the north-east and western states it is very low. In the south it is very high; but the elegance and comfort of all their arrangements compensate for this, to those who are able to afford it. But I must confess the high charges in this part of the country ran away with a considerable share of the pleasure I would otherwise have enjoyed.

On the South Carolina Railroad I paid six cents per mile, or ten dollars all the way through, 136 miles. On the southern railroads there is only one class of passenger-cars, except for the negroes, who are charged half-price, and never allowed to enter the same cars

with white men. The cars are generally much larger than in England; some of them will hold fifty passengers. They are both comfortable and elegant. On this and the Georgia Railway, where the charges and regulations are about the same, they have a very novel, very ugly, but not uncomfortable carriage, that is generally preferred at night: and this is nothing more than a huge cask—built in the usual way, and girded round with iron hoops—about ten or eleven feet diameter in the middle, thirty or thirty-five feet long, painted red, and the hoops black, with a large bunghole in the top, to give light and air. The passengers inside are seated in rows, facing each other, with an avenue down the centre, and a door at each end. This machine rests on four pair of wheels, and has a very strange appearance when it comes booming along at the rate of twenty-five miles an hour. It is a cheap and strong carriage. The idea must have originated with a Yankee engineer, for no other would ever have thought of bottling up railway passengers in a porter cask.

The charge made for meals along these routes

is half a dollar; and it is seldom that a less charge is made either for an omnibus, from any of the depots into a city, or for a dray to carry a trunk ---but the tables are abundantly supplied with all the good things of this life, and always prepared for any number. In some places, such as at Akin, on the South Carolina Railroad, where the train can be seen for many miles, when there is an extra number of passengers, a signal is made to the clever and indefatigable Mrs Schwats, who, *it is said*, can kill and cook a dozen of chickens in ten minutes: but the chickens are as well up to the trick as she is, for no sooner do the cars make their appearance than they go scampering off in all directions, too sensible of the fate that would await them, on falling into the hands of the active old Dutch lady on such an occasion.

The steam-boats that ply between Savannah and Charleston are as well regulated as any I have seen in all the country. Their tables are first-rate; all their arrangements are made with a view to the comfort and convenience of the passengers. I travelled this route several times, and willingly bear testimony to their superiority.

There is opposition on this line : but in whatever else they differ, they agreed in charging ten dollars of good money for carrying a passenger 108 miles, or ten hours' steaming, including all expenses. It is very rare to see gentlemen sit down to table till all the ladies are seated : and in these steam-boats this is a regulation, and none are allowed to infringe it.

There is steam-boat and railway communication all the way from New Orleans to New York. The time occupied is between six and seven days, and the expense about ninety dollars. The people that travel on these routes are mostly planters and their families, and mercantile men—almost all young people, and well-dressed—the ladies particularly so. Sometimes a poor man with a linsy-woolsy coat and a very bad hat will travel by these expensive routes ; and I was well pleased to see that such a person was not avoided or looked down upon on that account : Neither did he appear as if he felt any inferiority ; but looked up boldly, and entered into conversation freely with the most fashionably-dressed ; and these did not appear to be annoyed when a poor man made up to

them, but joined in the laugh or argument on terms of perfect equality. I have battled the watch, with a general on the one hand and a senator on the other, and they did not seem to think themselves a whit out of their element in conversing with a man they knew to be a tradesman.

Great numbers of labourers and mechanics migrate from the north to the south in the winter, and return again before the sickly season commences; but they generally go by sea. The cabin fare from New Orleans to New York or Baltimore is about thirty-eight dollars in coasting vessels. The cabins are comfortable and the fare good. In the steerage it is about eighteen dollars, with plenty to eat, but nowhere to sleep. Some go from New Orleans up the Mississippi to Pittsburg, and then down the canal and railroad to Philadelphia and New York; and a poor man can accomplish this, if he follow the most economical mode—buying his own provisions and cooking them—for sixteen or twenty dollars.

In every district I have been in, I have found the travelling community almost all young men.

In fact, the whole business of the country appears to be carried on by what, in this country, would be called boys.

I had no reason to complain of the expense of travelling in the north. The fare, per steamer, from New York to Boston, a little above 200 miles, is two dollars;—only one class of passengers;—some carry provisions and some eat on board. Their charges for meals are moderate. From Boston to Albany, 160 miles per railroad, six dollars.

The steam-boats on the Hudson are large and elegant, very sharp at both ends; some of them nearly 300 feet long. The decks project over the hull: they are covered in, the cover forming a very good promenade deck. They are of great power for their tonnage, and burn coal. The engines are placed in nearly a horizontal position; and some of them have small engines attached to each of the main engines, for blowing up the fires or creating a draught. Whenever, from any cause, the boat falls below her speed, an extra supply of steam is directed to these small engines; and they go like the *very mischief*, making the fires roar again until

the boat attains her proper speed. The average rate of sailing of these passage-boats is fifteen miles an hour, including stoppages; but they can go twenty miles, when they are pushed, either up or down the river, the current not being so great as materially to advance or retard their progress. They are gaily painted; and in the morning or evening when two or three of them are starting together from New York, every one of them crowded with well-dressed passengers, some sitting, some lounging about, some promenading the decks with handsome ladies on their arm; the national flag fluttering above them, extended to its greatest length by the speed of the fastest boats in the world; the whole enlivened with bands of music—it more resembles the work of some holiday than the occurrences of every-day life.

When I was in New York the fares were very low—only one dollar up to Albany, 145 miles.

Emigrants commonly go by the tow-boats, as they are cheaper; but when they go by these boats, although not prohibited from going aft, they generally occupy the forward part of the

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deck, where gentlemen are permitted to smoke, forming a strong contrast with the other passengers, as they sit in groups on the deck, in the midst of their bedding, pots, pans, and children with dirty faces, young women and wives with dirty caps, rumpled gowns, and dishevelled hair—having only landed perhaps the day before from an emigrant ship, where, for weeks, they have been huddled together, with nothing but salt water to wash themselves, and perhaps not having seen their pretty faces in a looking-glass since they left “Ould” Ireland, or, it may be, Dutchland.

Travelling on canals is both cheap and pleasant to those who have time, and wish to see the country. The Erie Canal, which passes part of the way through the valley of the Mohawk, and all the way through a beautiful and thickly-settled country, is a great work of art; and at present there are some thousands of men employed all along the line, repairing it, or rather reconstructing it altogether, at an expense of fourteen millions of dollars; and, when finished, it will form one of the greatest works of the kind in the world. The length of this canal, from

Albany to Buffalo, is 363 miles; between which I counted sixty towns, villages, and cities, some with a population of 10, 12, 19, and 20,000 inhabitants. There are two classes of boats. The one dragged by three horses at a trot, going the distance in between three and four days. These charge three cents and a half per mile, or ten dollars in the whole, including board; and, as these boats are fitted up entirely for passengers, the accommodation is very good. But they do not give so much time to the inquisitive traveller for visiting the numerous towns on the route, as the other class of boats, drawn by two horses at a walk, occupying about seven days. These are fitted up partly for freight and partly for passengers. The middle is appropriated for goods; and at each end there is a cabin, the one for eating, and the other for sleeping in, where berths are fitted up for sixteen men, and a division curtained off for ladies, with eight berths. The fare in this class of boats is two cents per mile, including provisions, and one cent without. In going through all the way they will take a little less than these rates. I paid six dollars, including

provisions: there were others in the same boat who paid three dollars and provided themselves; and they had the same accommodation as we had. There was another class still, who had their place amongst the goods. I do not know exactly what they paid—there were several children amongst them—probably not more than a dollar each. And the class of travellers, who bought their own provisions, had no difficulty in getting along: they could go ashore and get a meal, or they could buy a piece of meat and bring it on board, where they had the privilege of cooking it. At every lock, and all along the line of the canal, there are hundreds of little stores and places for selling all kinds of provisions (bread, milk, &c.), and all at moderate prices. There were two young Englishmen, labourers, in our boat, the "Juniata," whose expenses I took notice of. They paid three dollars a piece for the passage through, bought their own provisions, which cost them rather less than a dollar each; and we were seven days on our passage.

On the Ohio Canal the expense was about the same: the different classes of boats, and all

their arrangements, similar to that on the Erie Canal. In the distance from Cleveland to Portsmouth, 307 miles on this route, I counted twenty-four or twenty-five towns and villages, some of them containing 2, 3, 4, and the largest, on a side cut, 6000 inhabitants, viz., Columbus, the seat of government. These canals belong to the respective states in which they are situated; and any man can run a boat on them, on paying toll according to the amount of cargo and passengers carried. There are no regular charges—every boatman can charge what he pleases—but the opposition is so great that both freight and passage are always low. It is no uncommon thing for these boatmen to promise to carry a passenger for a certain sum, and at the end of the journey insist on a little more. Two cases of this kind came under my own observation on the Erie Canal. Boatmen try to get payment before they start; but those who are accustomed to travelling never pay in this way, but take the captain's note, stating the amount of passage-money, with an understanding that they can pay for the distance they have gone, and take another boat, if the accom-

modation and company do not please them. It is customary to beat them down in the price they ask at first. The captain of the boat "A. R. Cob" asked me six dollars to board and carry me from Portsmouth to Columbus, 215 miles. I went and tried some other boats that were starting on the same route; and I found I could go cheaper, but liked the first boat and returned, when he agreed to take me for four dollars. In this boat we had all sorts of passengers; some going out to buy land, some going to New Orleans, and some Germans who could not speak a word of English. The rate of sailing and the stoppages at different places allowed us to go ashore and walk, or amuse ourselves shooting as we went along. Several passengers had rifles; and I was surprised at the certainty of their aim. There were plenty of tarapins, a small species of turtle, about the size of a man's hand, swimming about in the canal and sunning themselves on its banks. These they killed almost at every shot, with a single bullet, at thirty to fifty yards distance; and a miss was more spoken of than a hit.

On the Lakes there are plenty of steamers in

all directions, and the fares are low. In crossing from Buffalo to Toronto the charges were, half a dollar in the small steamer "Waterloo" to Chippewa; then eight miles by stage to Queenstown, another half dollar; for crossing Lake Ontario, in the steamer "Transit," one dollar,—going through the whole route in one day. There is a large number of splendid-looking steamers on Lake Erie. I travelled 190 miles on this lake, in the steamer "New England," for one and a half dollars, meals not included; but although these boats have a shewy appearance, they are quite powerless in a breeze of wind. In this boat we were put back twelve miles, and took shelter for thirty hours at Dunkirk, in what would be considered a fine day by any of the Aberdeen and Leith steamers, although they have not half the appearance of these unwieldy, castellated-looking machines.

The steamers on the Ohio and Mississippi are different from those on the deeper waters of the lakes and North River. They have no cabin between decks, and are of a very light draught of water—a steamer of 300 tons not drawing more than six feet. There is a smaller class

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that run when the river is low, of from 90 to 140 tons; these do not draw more than two feet. They have all two funnels, and have more resemblance to a house than a ship. They have no masts. All of them are two stories high; and there was one, "The Duke of Orleans," launched at Cincinnati, when I was there, three stories high, the paddle wheels of which were thirty feet in diameter.

The lower decks of these boats are nearly flush with the water; but they are so top-heavy that in a windy day, or in turning short round, they swing about like a cart-load of hay on a rough road. They are built very slight; the timbers sawn out of plank—all gingerbread work;—and the hull of one is not reckoned to last more than four years, even if they come to a natural end, which is about as uncommon as it is to see a dead ass. The people on the western rivers are so much accustomed to the blowing up of steam-boats, that when they are describing any sudden or extraordinary noise, they will compare it to the bursting of a steam-boiler, as the most familiar illustration.

The expense of travelling on the western

rivers is not much more than living at a good boarding-house. In the winter and spring of 1841-2, the fare from Pittsburg to New Orleans was only from fifteen to twenty-five dollars, including a well-spread table three times a day; the distance, 1977 miles, occupying from seven to nine days—this variation of the time caused by stopping on the way, and putting out and taking in goods. A few years ago I was told the fare was from fifty to sixty dollars; but the opposition is so great now that money is seldom refused when offered. They have no regular price, every one making the best bargain he can. I came down from Portsmouth to Cincinnati in the best cabin; and some of us paid four dollars, some four and a half, others five, all for the same distance and accommodation.

All these boats have pretty good accommodation for steerage passengers, with berths to sleep on, but no bedding or victuals; however, there is accommodation for cooking. In this way, as a deck passenger, I travelled, at different times, all the way from Cincinnati to New Orleans, a distance of 1600 miles, for four dollars; and my expense for provisions did not amount to more than a

dollar and a half. Two or three of us would club together, and at the different places where we stopped, buy provisions and cook them ourselves. And what pleased me most, even amongst this class of people—who, I would suppose, from their dress and mode of travelling, were what might be called the poorer class—there was the same politeness and self-respect that I have observed as common to the Americans generally. Although we had only one stove for cooking, there was no scrambling who would have their breakfast first: every one seemed willing to prefer and accommodate his neighbour, with a consideration and politeness I have never seen in the steerage of a steam-boat, either in Scotland or England. Passengers of this class are not allowed to enter the best cabin, but the promenade deck, or roof of the house, is common to all.

I have sometimes been astonished at the discrepancies in the tales that travellers tell, in describing the same object; but after this I am not to be surprised at any ordinary difference of opinion; for in steaming down the Mississippi I could not make an estimate of the general

breadth of the river to please myself, and I applied to a fellow-passenger for his opinion. We differed so widely, that I thought I would try another : I was equally disappointed ; and I tried another, and another, and we varied in our opinion of the breadth of the river that was before us, from half a mile to a mile and a quarter ; and really, without actual measurement, I would not venture to say who was right. One thing I observed ; when we were in the middle of the river it appeared as far from each side as it did when we stood on one bank and looked over to the other.

I may remark here, that emigrants going out to any of the western states would have less personal fatigue, and less expense too, by taking shipping for New Orleans, from whence there are steam-boats sailing every day for all the western states ; except it be in the months of July, August, September, and October, when the river is low. The steam-boat quay at New Orleans is very convenient ; and emigrants can remove with their *plunder* immediately on their arrival, without almost any trouble or expense. The time occupied in going up the river is very

little more than in coming down. The boats are lighter, and do not make so many calls ; and instead of coming boldly down the centre of the current, they go puffing and blowing along the sides of the river, selecting the stillest and smoothest waters. The fare going up is about the same as in coming down. I have known passengers taken at two dollars each for 1600 miles when the boats carry wood. But this is a miserable job, and not without danger ; and I would not advise any one, except in the last extremity, to have any thing to do with it.

I spoke to two English emigrants who came out from Liverpool by this route, to the state of Indiana ; and the whole of their expense was only L.5 each.

I did not travel very much on stage coaches ; and the little that I did travel in this way left me nothing to regret. I found the same heavy lumbering machines, suspended with leathern bands, both in the south and north. The horses were, in general, good ; and the coaches, though far from handsome, were well suited to the roads, which are very bad, when compared

with the turnpikes of Scotland of the present day.

The greatest annoyance I was subjected to in travelling was in exchanging money. It is impossible to describe the wretched state of the currency—which is all bills issued by private individuals, companies, cities, and states; almost all of which are bankrupt; or, what amounts to the same thing, they cannot redeem their issues. All the bills are at a discount, varying from ten to fifty per cent.; and such rags of bills, too! In some of the states they issue bank notes for as small sums as threepence sterling; and in all of them the bills are as low as one dollar. And these do not pass out of the state, or frequently out of the city in which they are issued. It is true there is, in Charleston, New York, and some of the eastern cities, good money issued by private banks, that can be converted into specie at sight; but the amount of this money in circulation is so small, that it forms no important part of the currency of the country, which is generally in the depreciated “shin plasters” of these *bankrupt* banks.

Some of these bills promise to pay (?) in specie; some are issued, promising to be received in payment of debts due to said company; some promise to be paid on demand in current bank notes, which are as bad as their own; some bear a promise to be received in payment of a ride on a railway;—all sorts of notes—some bearing interest. But all are depreciated below the specie standard.

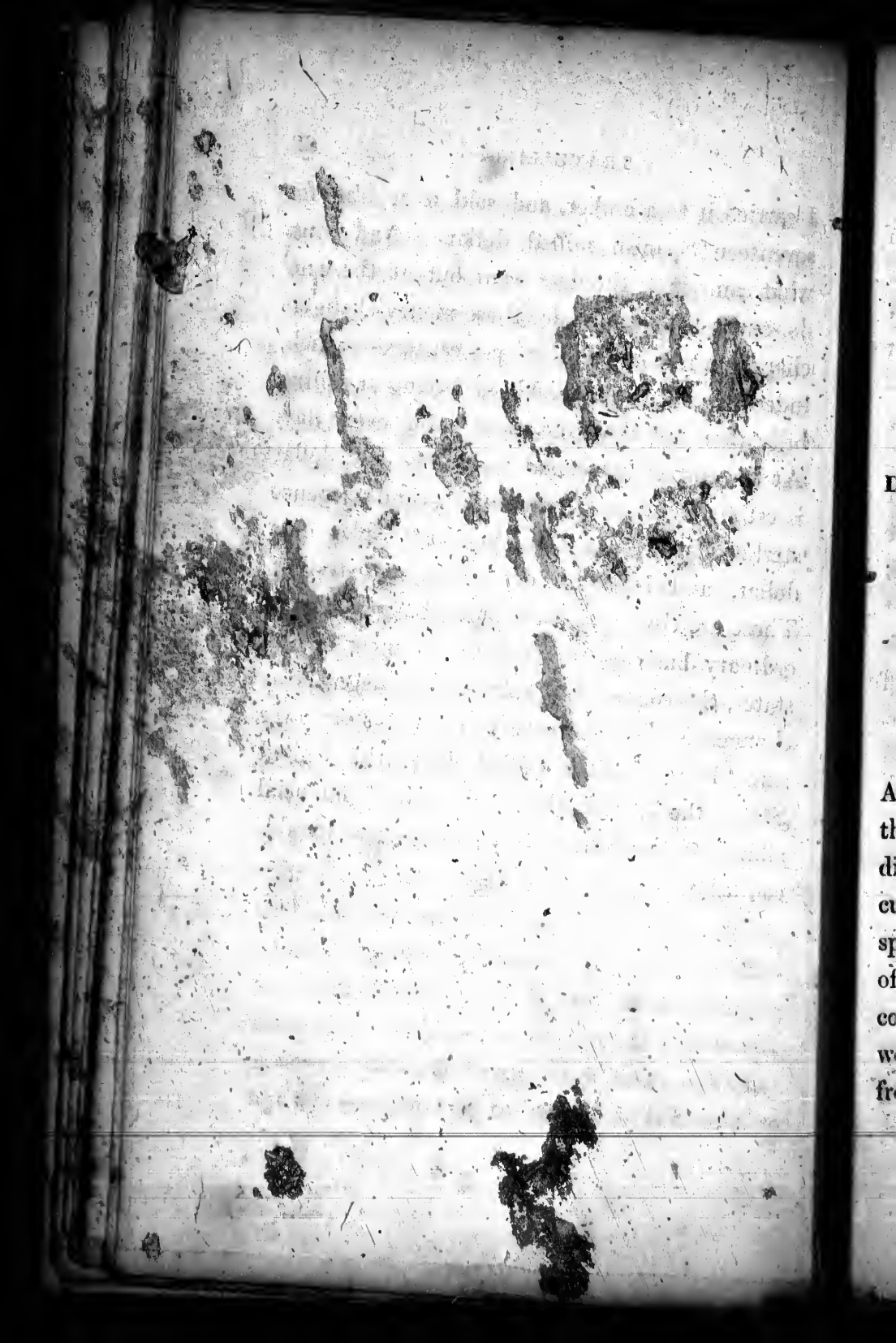
There are some American gold and silver, and some English sovereigns; but these are bought and sold like any other commodity, and not generally used in business, except in small sums for change. The specie is mostly in the hands of money-brokers—a numerous class in every town, who make a very profitable business by dealing in exchanges, buying and selling specie, selling cheques on different parts of the country, to men of business and to travellers.

To illustrate this I shall suppose a case. A traveller arrives in Louisville from New Orleans, and he has twenty dollars of the municipal money of the latter city;—they are of no use to him here, for they are not current. He goes to an exchange office, and he gets nineteen dollars

for his twenty, equally bad, but they are current in Louisville. The next customer that comes in to the money merchant is going to New Orleans, and he wants to exchange his money for bills that will pass current *there*; and he gets them on paying a per-centage to the broker. And thus, what gives people travelling a great deal of annoyance, makes a profitable business to the money-changer.

I contrived, as much as possible, to have my money for defraying travelling expenses in American or English gold; but I did not pay it away, as all the charges on the road were expected to be paid in bills below par—the common currency. When I had a payment to make, say of ten dollars, I would go to a broker with two sovereigns—the specie value of which was nine dollars and seventy cents—and get eleven, or, if the paper was very bad, twelve dollar bills for my two sovereigns; and these answered my purpose as well as specie. But the difference was not all profit. When I received thirty dollars of wages for working, say in Cincinnati, I wanted to carry twenty of it away with me; but it was of no use to me out of the state, so

I carried it to a broker, and sold it to him for seventeen Spanish milled dollars. And thus, what came in at the door went out at the window, and a little more; for these money-changers charge no regular rates of per-centage—which, indeed, would be impossible in buying or selling bills that are changing their value every day. At the custom-house and post-office one dollar is estimated equal to four shillings and twopence sterling. One cent is the hundredth part of a dollar, and equal to one halfpenny sterling. These are the legal rates of exchange; but in ordinary business transactions, in most of the states, the comparative value of sovereigns is as changeable as the weather, and has been ever since King Jackson pulled down the United States Bank, and threw the whole financial affairs of the country into almost inextricable confusion.



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CHAPTER IV.

FARMING IN THE STATES.

Duchess County, State of New York—Mode of travelling—Beauty of the country—Original proprietors—Size of farms—Price of land—Value of money invested in land—Mr. Ferguson's notions—Farmers compared with those in Kincardineshire—Frequent removals—Houses—Mr. Mitchell's farm and mode of living—Working in the harvest field—Labourers' wages—Thrashing machines—State of Ohio—Price of land—Crops—Appearance of the country—Rooting out stumps—A Sunday in the back woods—Farmers at market—Price of produce—Description of a farmer—Wrong ideas of the value of land.

ALTHOUGH I am no farmer, I shall state some things that came under my notice, as to the condition and prospects of those engaged in agriculture. It is not necessary to occupy time and space with any remarks on cotton planting, nor of farming in the south. I shall, therefore, confine my observations to the northern and western states, as the demand for information from these quarters is at present most general.

I shall first advert to farming in Duchess

County, in the state of New York (one of the finest agricultural districts in the empire state) where I lived seven weeks, working part of the time at a wool mill and partly amongst the farmers in the neighbourhood of Washington Hollow, about twelve miles on the east side of the North River and eighty from New York. I arrived in this district on the 5th of August, 1841, and was so delighted with the appearance of the country that I resolved to devote a week or ten days to travelling about; and I never spent time more pleasantly. I went up with the stage to Washington Hollow. People of all classes, when they travel through the country, ride in light four-wheeled waggons, with sometimes one, but more generally two, light active horses—driving at a good smart trot. When they come up with a stray pedestrian they will sometimes offer him a ride, and never refuse, if there is room, when asked; only it is customary for the stranger to pay tolls.

This custom answered me exactly. Not having any particular road to go, I asked a ride whichever way the waggon was going; and in this way I travelled about for eight or nine days,

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crossing over the country as far as the state of Connecticut, after which I returned to Washington Hollow.

I was quite delighted with every thing, and with nothing more than the continued sunshine. The whole country was both pleasant to live in and to look at. It could not be called hilly, in the sense we understand that term in Scotland. But the surface was very uneven, so much so, that draining, even in good farming, is not necessary to any extent. There are abundance of rivulets and small streams rippling over pebbled beds, as clear as crystal—interspersed with green fields and shady groves; good roads and comfortable-looking farm houses; the farmers' children neat and clean; large wols oxen and beautiful cows;—the whole country, for hundreds of miles, thickly studded with towns and villages, with beautiful and rich fields, just ripening for the harvest.

But general description does not convey that minute information so much wanted; I shall, therefore, give an outline of the history of the particular district in and around Washington Hollow. About ninety years ago a company

bought a section of land twenty miles square, at a quarter of a dollar per acre. I could not learn that any of the original proprietors derived any advantage from the speculation. Those who bought from them and settled on the land, and remained on it for any considerable length of time, have done well. I had the account from an old farmer, whose father owned half an original share: He bought 200 acres about forty years ago, at ten dollars per acre, which was considered very high at the time; and he had a hard struggle for many years. He has brought up a large family, and now his land is worth eighty dollars per acre. He said he could get seventy dollars for every acre of it, in hard cash at any time. This increase in the value of land has made most of those rich who have had patience to remain long enough to take advantage of it. Another cause of prosperity is the application of a new manure called *plaster*. It is a sandstone rock found in Nova Scotia, ground in mills and sown upon the land; it is very cheap, and can be got in any quantity.

The country is as thickly settled on as it can be for agricultural purposes. The average size

of farms is about 120 acres, part of which is covered with wood, principally oak, which is considered as valuable as cleared land. The average price may be about seventy dollars per acre. Two small farms, in the immediate neighbourhood of Messrs. Gilderstiene and Burch's mill, were lately sold—one for 115 the other for 90 dollars per acre.

I made particular inquiries at some intelligent farmers and men of business, what money was worth invested in land; and all accounts agree that it will not return more than from three to four and a half per cent.;—the continued rise in the value of land may increase the return to about five and a half per cent. This does not agree very well with Mr. Ferguson's calculations of profit from the farms on the banks of the Hudson. My object, however, is to make my statements agree with truth; and I warn the public against putting faith in his calculations and imaginary profits, which have no existence in reality, nor ever had any, except in his own imagination.

A farm in any of the older settled states, where there are good society, opportunities of

giving children a good education, and within reach of all the conveniences and comforts that conduce so much to the happiness of a family, will cost more money to buy the land and stock than would be required to commence farming as a tenant in Scotland. And, as far as I had opportunities of judging, it does not appear to me that a certain sum of money laid out in farming here will give a greater return, or a more comfortable living to the farmer. I know I am not well qualified to judge of this matter; but I have called to my remembrance farmers that I knew in Scotland, who had laid out L.500, and some who have expended L.800 or L.1000 in stocking their farms and in making improvements; and, on comparing their condition with those in the well-settled districts of America, who have laid out similar sums in purchasing land and stock (farming it themselves), it does not appear, on the whole, that the latter are more comfortable or make more money. I could point out as many cases of successful farming—of men who had commenced with very little capital, and who had realized a competency, or made a comfortable living for themselves and

families, in Kincardineshire, as could be done in any district of the States similarly situated.

It is difficult to ascertain the condition or prosperity of a class of people from a short residence amongst them. The American farmer who has L.500 laid out on his business, does not wear a better hat or coat, a cleaner shirt on Sunday (well brushed-shoes never, unless he do it himself, for it is impossible to get the women to work); neither are his family better educated, nor does the "goodwife" wear a prettier shawl, better shoes, or warmer stockings, than the farming class in Kincardineshire. To be sure they eat more butcher-meat, poultry, fruit, and good things; but they are not so fat, nor so strong-limbed; neither do they live so long.

It appeared to me rather strange, that although almost all farm their own lands, they do not remain so long in a place as the farmers in Scotland do, who are tenants. Go into any parish in Scotland, and inquire how long this one has been in the neighbourhood, or how long that one has been in the Mains or the Mill-town: it will appear some have been twelve, twenty, some forty years or more. Father and

grandfather are recollected. The Americans are so mutable, so much given to change their business and residence, that I have scarcely met with one who knew who his grandfather was.

The farmer who leaves Scotland with some money and a rising family, to purchase land, to fix himself for the remainder of his days, and settle his children comfortably around him—building castles of independence and domestic happiness—will often find he is leaning upon a broken reed, *as far as he himself is concerned.*

If he escape the *disease of locomotion*, his family are almost sure to catch it from the example of all around them. And the son, that was to be the staff of his old age, is away with some companion to the "far west," where there is nothing but health and plenty, and gold growing upon trees. The daughter that was to smooth the pillow of declining years is married, and away beyond the Rocky Mountains, to some newer and more fertile country.

These are not encouraging prospects; but they are just as likely to take place as that the troubles of the farmer are ended, even when he sits down upon a piece of rich land of his own, where there

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I think the following extract from Mr. Ferguson's book will speak for itself. If ever it has been seen by any of the Canadian farmers, they would have some difficulty in reconciling it with their experience. Speaking of the capabilities of the township of Nichol, in Upper Canada, he says, "A man with L.500 sterling, equal to L.600 currency, may purchase 200 acres of wild land; and, after paying household and all other expenses, there will remain a clear profit of—

First year,	£200
Second,	380
Third,	420
Fourth,	600."

He gives a very plausible statement of all the items of expenditure and profit, but they are not worth the labour of transcribing. After building a comfortable house for the farm, erecting a thrashing-machine, fencing in the fields, and clearing 150 acres of land, he sums up by saying, at the end of the fourth year, the farmer

has his farm paid for, stocked, and L.600 currency in his pocket.

Taking notice of Mr. Ferguson's extravagant statements has led me away from my immediate object, which was to give some account of this particular district—which, it must be observed, is within the influence of the city of New York. The houses are built of wood, painted white, clean and comfortable, roomy and airy; very good for summer, but not well calculated for the extreme cold of winter. They are carpetted, have sofas and sideboards; many of them have silver table spoons; their wives and daughters dressed in silk, surrounded with all the comforts of civilized life. It is worth while being a farmer's daughter here; for they do no out-door work—not even milking the cows,—never think of walking on foot, even for short distances,—driving their elegant waggons frequently themselves. I have seen the farmers' daughters sitting in the shade of the piazza, that forms part of every house, sewing or amusing themselves, while he himself was busy milking the cows.

Mr. Mitchell, a neighbouring farmer, sent to me one day, asking if I would help him to cut down some oats. This was a business I knew very little about; however, as the mill was stopped for want of water, and as I was always anxious to gather information, away I went. I shall describe exactly how I got on. It was mid-day when I arrived at the house, which was beautifully situated on the side of the turnpike, surrounded by an orchard; and just before the door, on the green sward, Uncle Mitchell was lying in the shade of a cherry-tree, resting an hour in the heat of the day. He was lying on his back, a broad-brimmed straw-hat over his face; his neck was bare; had on a coarse cotton shirt, a pair of cotton Osnaburg trousers, mended about the knees; a pair of roughlike half boots, half shoes, that had never been brushed or greased; without stockings; with a chew of tobacco in his mouth: and this man owned 120 acres of land, worth L.18 or L.20 per acre. He told me "he was very glad to see me, for he guessed he was pretty well used up." I sat down beside him, and ate

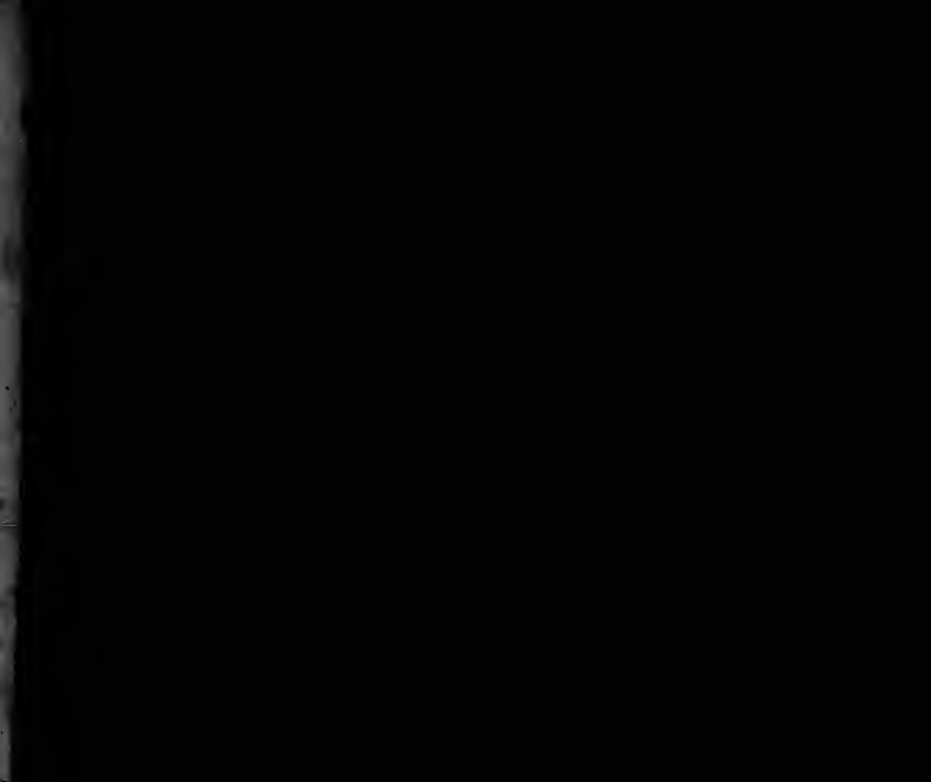
some apples and some cherries that the children brought us. I told him I could not cradle, but was willing to do anything. I could. We went in to dinner; but first into the kitchen, which was large and clean, with a pump-well in one corner, and a neatly-painted trough before it, where we washed our hands. It may be worth while to notice that the well was dug about twenty feet from the house, and the neatly-made pump inside was connected with it by a one-inch leaden pipe: and in this way in a town I have seen two or three houses, each with a pump inside, and all supplied from the same well. We sat down to dinner in a comfortable little parlour, with a painted floor, a Yankee clock, and cane-bottomed chairs. The wife was a clean "tidy" body; there were two half-grown boys and a little girl. Before us there was a well-spread table, a clean table-cloth (made of coarse cotton cloth), a piece of boiled pork, a piece of cold beef, cold mush (very good), flour bread, green Indian corn (smoking hot), cucumbers, pumpkin pie, silver spoons, clean knives and forks, water in clean tumblers, and a cup

of tea after. This pleased me well; but not more than the good-breeding of all, and their attention to me.

After dinner, the farmer, his two sons, and I, went to the field; and it was arranged that I should rake and bind for the old man: the two sons were to work together. At first I could not keep up; but before the horn sounded to call us home to supper, I was getting into the knack of it: really it was very hard work. Next day I was able to keep up pretty well, and tried my hand at the scythe; and between their flattery and my own anxiety to learn, I would not have been long in mastering it—not, indeed, to anything like the same perfection they had arrived at;—the old man laid his grain as straight in the swath as a bunch of candles.

They use the cradle scythe; and a good hand can cut four acres a day. But the crops are light, compared to those of the Carse of Gowrie; and there is no grass in the bottom. We did not put it up in *stooks*, but built it in small cocks, in the evening after we had done cutting.

I wrought here three days and a half, and got



seventy-five cents a day; an ordinary hand would have got at least one dollar in good money. In the course of this harvest I was up and down the neighbourhood more than fifty miles, and did not see a woman working in the field. I was told, that on the west side of the river, which is settled to some extent by the Dutch, the females work out of doors in about the same way as they do at home—or in Scotland. In travelling about I have joined many parties in the harvest field; and although no women are to be seen, the conversation carried on is far more befitting their presence than the “cracks” on the harvest rig in moral Scotland. I never saw them eating in the field, or heard of them sleeping in such places as *bothies*.

Farmers here have no difficulty in getting labourers; and twelve or fourteen dollars, with board at the farmer's table, are the highest wages in summer. It is not common to hire for more than a month at a time. Most of them have thrashing-machines: some of those who have not, employ men who go about with portable machines on a waggon. They are much smaller than those used in Scotland; and

instead of having beaters on the cylinder, it is filled with iron spikes about two inches long, one fourth square, about two or two and a half inches distant from each other. The arrangement for feeding is the same, but they have no shaker attached. They are very effective, and require little power; and I believe grain is easier thrashed out here than in Scotland. At first they had the cylinder with beaters; but they have thrown it aside, as requiring too much power. I observed that the spiked cylinder cuts the straw a little; but they do not consider that of much importance.

In this and similar districts a poor man has little chance of buying land. Some rent farms, paying, as rent, from one half to one third of the produce, renting it from year to year, or, at most, for three or five years,—a bad plan, and acknowledged by themselves to be so, for all parties;—but it would be a very tempting bargain, indeed, to induce a Yankee farmer to remain nineteen years in one place,

Farmers' sons, as they grow up, migrate to the west, where land is cheap. Many have gone from this neighbourhood lately, to Ken-

tucky, Indiana, &c., where they purchase cleared land, that is half worn out, for from seven to fifteen dollars an acre; and, by introducing a comparatively better system of farming, make a more comfortable living than the first settlers did.

We shall now take a view of the farmers in the west—in the state of Ohio—where a good farm can be bought within a day's journey of a market town, for from fifteen to eighteen dollars per acre. The principal crops are Indian corn, wheat, hay, oats, and barley; and in the south, tobacco. They cultivate artificial grasses. And although the dwellings are not so handsome, nor so well furnished as in the older-settled states, they have all the necessities of life in exceeding abundance. The general appearance of the country is level, and covered with interminable forests. In looking from any eminence, over a well-settled district, it has the appearance of a continuous forest. It is seldom one can get so elevated as to be able to look right down upon the settlements. Many of the cultivated fields have a very desolate and cheerless aspect, from the number of large trees that have been girdled

and left standing to wither and die. I have seen several modes of rooting out the stumps of trees; and the most simple was the most effectual. First they cut the surface roots all round with a grubbing hoe, then one end of a strong pole, of from twelve to twenty-five feet in length, was fastened with a chain to the stump, and a yoke of oxen to the other—they were then driven round the stump, as in a thrashing-mill, until the tape root was twisted and broken; but the most common way is to let the stump rot out of its own accord. Hardwood will disappear in ten or twelve years; but the fat, rich, tarry pine stumps will hold up their ugly black heads for a hundred years, if allowed to remain unmolested.

In steaming down the Ohio, towards Cincinnati, we stopped at a small town on the north side of the river, about forty miles below Portsmouth, called Aberdeen. It being Sunday morning, a fellow-traveller and I agreed to make a short excursion into the country, to see how the farmers looked in Ohio in a beautiful morning in autumn. We proceeded several miles in the direction away from the river—

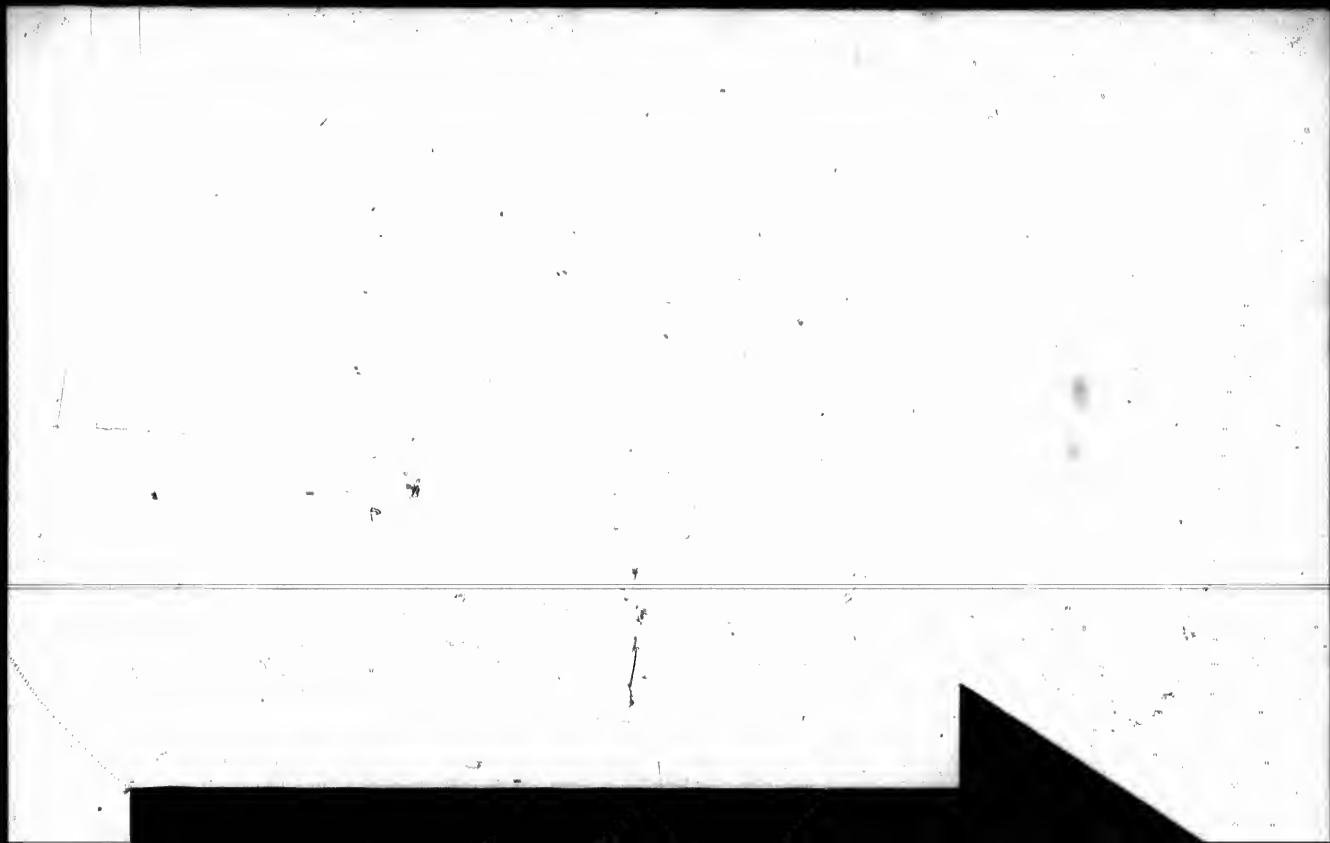
sometimes over fields and fences—through corn fields, the stalks of which were still standing—this being better travelling than the so called main road, which, indeed, was no road at all.

We passed several very good farms, with large barns, &c., having all the appearance of industry and prosperity. The unsightly worm fences, that are so universal, were here in their rudest form. These must be a certain number of bars high, and have a certain closeness, to make what is termed a legal fence. I was told it was a general law, that unless a farmer enclose his fields with such a fence, he cannot sue or recover damages for a trespass.

We loitered away half an hour with two men, who were out with rifles, shooting squirrels, although it was Sunday. I was amused with the way they brought them down from the tallest branches of the moss-grown trees. I picked up several that fell as dead as red herrings, but no wound, not even a scratch, was to be seen on them. Shooting them down in this way they call *barking*. Not wishing to break the skin of the animal, they aim at the limb of the tree to which it clings; and the shock of the.

splintering of the bark stuns them. Whether this was the right reason, or whether the *varmint* were so well convinced of the unerring aim of these *Hoosiers*, that they gave up the ghost as soon as the rifle was fired, whether they were shot or not; the fact, at least, was, many of them came tumbling down without any apparent hurt.

We entered two of the forest like cabins we saw. In one was a middle-aged man and his wife; the man was resting on the bed; the wife was reading the Bible, with a pair of silver spectacles on her nose. The man was without his coat; had on a clean shirt and bad shoes; and the wife had a gown of worsted stuff. The floor of the house was of timber, clean—except at the bedside, where the man was spitting tobacco juice. On one side of the room the rifle and powder-horn hung conspicuous; on the other was a saddle, hanging by one of the stirrup-irons from a wooden peg in the wall. There were a few pieces of bacon, and some “barr meat.” Cabins of the poorest kind have chimneys for conveying the smoke out of the house.





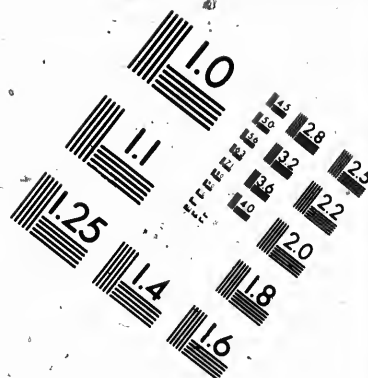
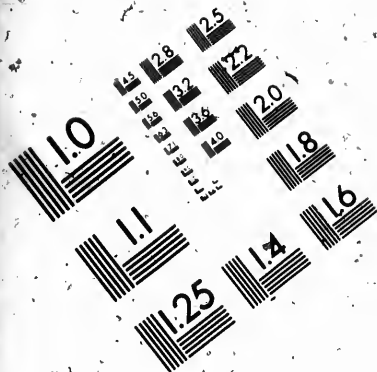
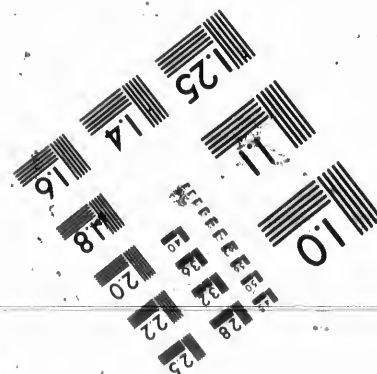
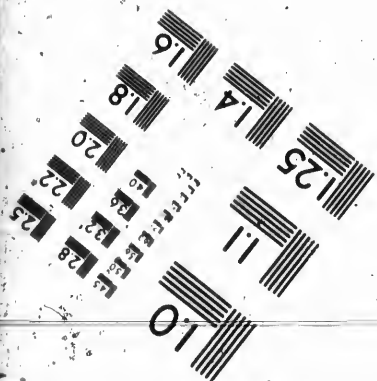
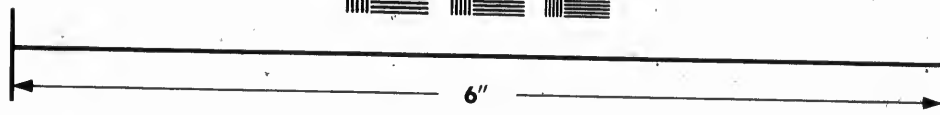
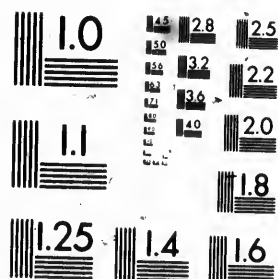


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This man had a few acres of land, a cow, and a horse. He wrought for neighbouring farmers; said the times were very bad, and he could not get more than ten dollars a month and his victuals.

The next we entered was a little house of the same kind, that appeared to have been lately bedaubed over with mud to fill up the openings between the logs. Inside were two truckle beds, divided by a piece of "clouty carpet." It was a sober dwelling; but everything was clean in it. There were two children, a grown-up young lady, and an older one, who seemed to be the mother of all, well-dressed and clean. The young lady had on a silk dress, her hair nicely braided, and plaited behind into two tails, one hanging on each shoulder. The husband was out; but they told us they were lately from the state of Vermont; had bought 150 acres of land, about 60 of it cleared, for eight dollars per acre, and appeared well pleased with their bargain.

In returning towards Aberdeen, we came on a few men, some of them sitting on a fence, some of them leaning over it, and two horses

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with ragged riding saddles, grazing beside them. We joined the party, and found they were neighbours, who had met to lounge away an hour or two and exchange news. They all appeared to be farmers: some of them had cotton Osnaburg jackets; one had a long-tailed linsey-coat, with several holes in it, and one had no coat at all; none of them had neckcloths, and only some of them had clean shirts; most of them had long beards, and their hands were hard and horny; their boots had never been cleaned—the very leather was rough and grey. After joining them a little while, we let the conversation fall into their own hands altogether; which turned out to be about some of their neighbours, and of little interest. They were gaping and yawning as if they had spent a wearisome day. The only thing they seemed to take an interest in was cutting the fence with their knives, and looking now and then towards the sun, which was then in the west—evidently wearied, and anxious for his setting.

I shall now describe the appearance of the

farmers as they come into Cincinnati, the principal city in the state, to sell their produce. There are markets every day, except Sunday, in some part of the city; and the business is done early in the morning. In the afternoon the farmers are seen driving their waggons towards the city from every quarter. Their waggons are like the old English, but not so heavy; covered in the same way; drawn by four horses generally, but varying from two to six. The farmer always rides on one of his team. As they come into the city they take their places, side by side, backed up to the foot-pavement—unyoking their horses, and feeding them from a trough that has its place on every waggon. Then the farmer turns in, wraps himself up in his blanket, sleeping in his waggon; and as soon as daylight appears he is up and ready for business.

I shall describe the contents of one of these waggons, selecting one that will give a fair specimen. In the bottom there is a few bushels of Indian corn; in one corner an old flour-barrel full of beautiful apples, of which one can

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FARMING IN THE STATES.

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buy a basketful for five cents; then we have a bag or two of grits—that is ground Indian corn; Indian corn meal; a bag of pease or beans; next we have two or three roasting pigs, ready for the spit—these for half a dollar a piece; a large hog, at an English penny a pound (this in the autumn of 1841); then we have an earthen jar of apple-butter—nasty black-looking stuff, but very good to eat; a barrel of eggs, at seven or eight cents per dozen; butter made up in square pieces, the size of half a brick, formed in moulds—not over clean, and sometimes not very well-tasted, when compared with Mrs. Howie's of the Mill of Forrest; a few chickens; two or three turkeys, ready for the cook, half a dollar a piece; and, lastly, the farmer himself, with whom you have to deal, is a thin active man of the middle size, his mouth begrimed with tobacco, and on his head a white hat that once had a brim, which was evident from the remains that still fringed his yellow features; a cotton shirt without dressing, fastened at the neck with a horn button; a linsey coat of a brown colour, made with

long tails like a dress coat, with a hole in one elbow ; a pair of strong Wellington boots drawn up over his trousers. Suppose all this bespattered over with dust and mud, and you will have a very good idea of an Ohio farmer at market. But return with him to his home, and you will find his wife and daughters sitting clean and comfortable—perhaps wondering how many of the hundred and one things they expect with the team from the city has been forgot. A farmer, when he goes to market, would as soon think of going to the “groggery” as a Deeside farmer would of going to church in Aberdeen on a Friday.

There are no fairs or great cattle-markets like what there are in England and Scotland. It is a general rule, both in agriculture and mercantile business, that those who wish to buy, look out for and call on those who wish to sell.

I consider it unnecessary to describe particularly any of the new settlements in the west, as I propose to notice them in Canada ; and the condition of the pioneer in both countries is so

much alike, that a description of one will serve for the other. I shall conclude this chapter with one observation, and it applies to all emigrants that come from Europe, but more especially from Britain. They have wrong ideas of the value of land. At home, land is so valuable, and so much in the hands of the few, that a man who has been able to buy his own farm, is a *Laird*; and at kirk and market is pointed out as one that is better off than common—a man that everybody bids good-morning to. In America the case is different. Where every one is a laird, the possession of land confers no distinction or privilege, except paying the land-tax. And I advise agricultural emigrants not to be too much disappointed, if they do not chance to settle on the *very best land*. Wherever I have been, on inquiring if the land was good, I found there was far superior locations somewhere else—at some place where nobody had ever been: some, indeed, have got within sixty miles of what they consider first-rate land and a healthy climate; and this is, probably, as near an approach

to contentment as can be arrived at in any country.

I have omitted very minutely to particularize the prices of land, grain, and other articles—the prices are so various; and, unless all the concomitant circumstances are taken into account, lists of prices are more apt to mislead than to convey information. I prefer giving the appearance and mode of living, as better criterions for judging of the condition of the American farmer.

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CHAPTER V.

FARMING IN CANADA.

Opinions of the farmers as to their comfort—Fatherland
—Best age to emigrate—Removals—Unhealthy situa-
tions—Decrease in the value of land—Supremacy of
the laws—Comparison—An improvident settler and
his family—An industrious one—Commencing without
any capital—A very successful farmer—To prevent
hens from scratching up garden-seeds—Ignorance of
back-sawyers—Flour-mills—Saw-mills—raising a log-
house—Cold-preaching—Disappearance of the people.

I DO not wonder at the great variety of opinion
that exists on the subject of emigration to
Canada. When I was working at the Messrs.
Hendry and Scott's carding and spinning-mill,
and likewise at the wool-mill at Burrwick, I had
ample opportunities, as the farmers and their
wives came with their wool to be carded, of
getting their candid opinions on this subject,
which were just as various as the notions that
prevail at home. Some found fault with the

country, without being able to give any good reason; some complained of general discomfort and the want of society; some complained that, although they had no fear of being turned out of their farms or of wanting bread for themselves or family, they could not make money. It appeared to me that a love of fatherland, and a keen remembrance of early friends and associations, were considerable drawbacks on the happiness of the Irish, English, and Scottish settlers. I conversed with some who, having left home in disgust, gloried in their separation. As a general rule, I found that those who had emigrated, after arriving at middle life, regretted they had come out, at least thought they could have done as well, and been more comfortable, if they had remained at home. But this, to any one who knows human nature, is nothing strange; and I only mention it to remark, that those who have arrived at middle life are not the best subjects for emigration. Those who had come out early in life, or been born here, all liked it—every body loves their native land.

The custom that prevails so extensively in the States, of shifting about from place to place—from farming to trading, and so on, all over the gamut—is nearly as common in Canada, and equally detrimental to success in life. In the midst of a rich and fertile land, and in the midst of plenty, many frequently fail to make a comfortable living anywhere. Just like a man looking for a stick in a hedge; he goes on, and on, till suddenly he comes to the end; and lo! he has no stick at all, after having passed twenty good ones. But this only proves that the resources of the country are great, and facilities of making money so numerous, that people hardly know where to fix themselves.

An unhealthy neighbourhood, is a frequent cause of removal; and, as to this, I will remark what applies equally to the States and to Canada:—wherever land is newly settled and the soil rich, *fever and ague, more or less, will be the lot of those who settle there.* However, as an offset to this, there are not many cases of consumption.

From the best information I could get from

a considerable speculator in land and other property, Mr. A. Burr, Yonge Street, and from the farmers themselves, it appears that land has rather decreased in value since the M'Kenzie rebellion, which has unsettled men's minds, and cast a gloom over the province, from which it, perhaps, may not recover till something else occur to alarm them.

Those who are not frightened at such prospects, can make a better bargain of land than in the States. Good rich forest land can be bought, within a day's journey of Toronto, the capital of Upper Canada, with a population of 16 000, for twelve dollars per acre. I found a number of Yankees here, both farmers and mechanics, making money, which they can do everywhere except amongst Jews or Scotsmen.

Many years ago the whole province was laid out in sections, and quarter sections, dividing the whole country like a "damboard." Each section, of a quarter of a mile, is numbered, and there is no more difficulty of finding a farm by its number than a merchant in a city. Farms are called by the number or the name

of the owner ; there is no similar custom, either in Canada or the United States to that which prevails in Scotland, of calling particular farms by particular names. I did not like the manners of the people in Canada so well as those in the States, although there is nothing very objectionable in their intercourse with each other.

One thing I liked better ; the laws of the country are more supreme, and perhaps fully as purely administered. In comparing Upper Canada with New York, or any of the older states of the Union, it is far behind in wealth, cultivation, and internal communication. But this is not to be wondered at : these were important, and comparatively wealthy States, when the province was an uninhabitable forest. The progress made, when compared with the western and more recently-settled States, is not at all unfavourable to Canada ; and there are many beautiful districts I had no opportunities of seeing, for my peregrinations were limited ; but the beautiful farms and rich clover fields on what is there called Yonge Street, will compare with any part of the States.

I now wish to present my readers with a class of farmers different from those that use silver spoons. I visited some new settlements of the very poorest kind, near where Dundas Street crosses the Humber. Although I am no great smoker I bought some tobacco and a pipe, the lighting of which gave me a good excuse for entering their houses.

The first one I entered was a little log house that had been built a few months before. The interstices between the logs had not yet been filled up, and I could see through and through the house: within all was exposed at one glance. There were no partition walls or furniture, not even a stool to sit down upon. I did not ask a single question, but will describe what I saw. In one corner was a bed, the roughest concern I had seen—the bark was not even scraped from the pine poles of which it was made—and on it was lying a man about thirty-five years of age, with yellow features, a long black beard, and a dirty face. He was partly covered over with a dirty coverlid; his feet were sticking out beyond its scanty longitude, dirty and as black as a

negro's. His wife, a poor, down-hearted-like, dirty drab, the "dowiest-looking" mortal I had seen in all the country; a little child too, but it had not the bright looks of happy childhood. There was a young pig, too, running all about and below the bed, and it was the poorest anatomy of all. There was no flitch of bacon here, no Indian corn; all the eatables were a few potatoes in a corner; and there was nothing behind the scenes, all being exposed at one glance. I turned away, for it made my heart ache to see the utter destitution of these poor settlers. A few trees around the cabin had been felled, lying across each other in all directions, looking more like the picture of a ruin than the commencement of a new settlement.

The next house I came to was not so good; being nothing more than a few logs, built up in the roughest manner, and covered over with brushwood. But I heard the sound of the settler's axe before I came near his dwelling. This was an active young man, with his neck bare and his shirt-sleeves folded up to his shoulders, chopping the logs into lengths for the

purpose of burning ; with a little boy beside him riding on a log. This man told me he had only commenced four weeks before—that he rented fifty acres of land for ten years, at a mere nominal rent, only he had agreed to clear one half of it, and had already two acres chopped, piled, and ready for burning. He laid down his axe, invited me into his shanty, and bade me sit down upon the stump of a tree that had been left for a seat. The inside of this house was worse than the former ; but there was strength in the man's arm, and there was hope in it. The children made a noise ; the wife smiled, and asked if I would eat anything, setting down a piece of pork and some wheaten bread on the lid of a box, with a gourd of water. He told me they were to put up a log-house, and would have everything snug and comfortable before winter, in the course of which he would be able to earn enough to keep them and buy a cow ; and after that they would get on first-rate.

I asked about the neighbouring settlement just described, and found that the man was laid up with fever and ague ; and that he was a

drunken sort of a fellow, that would never do any good. I thought this very likely; for I have seen enough to convince me that people of this description can make themselves worse off in America than even at home.

The next particular case I will refer to is about eighteen miles farther up the river, in the township of Vaughan, ninth concession. The farmer's name was John Williams, a native of Germany: He commenced operations sixteen years ago, in the bush, without neighbours, without friends, without even enough of money to pay for his hundred acres of land, the price of which was one dollar per acre. At first he built a small log hut, in which he lived for the first four years, cooking his own victuals, washing his clothes himself, and labouring in the forest alone.

This information I had from the neighbours; and thinking it would be a good specimen of what industry could perform, I went to see his place. His house was situated on a green knoll, in the midst of his fields, which were all regularly laid out and fenced in. There was a small stream of clear water running between his large

barns and out-houses and his dwelling, which was a two story house of the best kind, built of square logs; everything appeared of the most substantial kind, and within everything bespoke comfort, thrift, and rural wealth. When we sat down in the kitchen, Mr Williams told me, when he commenced he had only eighty dollars; "But now," he added, "you see we are pretty comfortable." And I did see; for the kitchen was literally crowded all round with bacon, hung beef, and home-spun yarns. He had a wife and four children, all comfortably clad in home-made stuffs. He had turkies, geese, and chickens—I do not know many. He had a very simple mode of preventing these last from scraping and scratching up his garden-seeds. Each foot has three toes; the two outside ones were taken up and tied over the middle one,—thus they could not scrape with the foot that was tied nor stand upon the tied one to scrape with the other.

In walking up the avenue to the house I passed a beautiful field of rich clover, with more than twenty fat hogs almost hid amongst it. I saw three pair of fine horses, four work oxen,

and several cows and young cattle. He has two hundred acres of land, all fenced and in beautiful order;—not a stump to be seen in any of his fields except on two small enclosures of his last purchase. He has had the good taste to leave a few of the largest and most beautiful forest trees standing on various parts of his farm; and now the whole of it is worth from thirty-five to forty dollars an acre. He said he would not sell it for that: for now he has plenty of neighbours, is within a mile and a half of a meeting-house, and would be contented to die where he had spent the best of his days, and be buried in an inclosed corner of one of his own fields, which he pointed out to me as the family burying-ground.

He has, indeed, good reason to be contented; for he lives here in the midst of plenty, and far away from the bustle and the rivalry of active life, neither caring to know nor concerning himself how the world goes.

This was at the time of M'Leod's trial, and I was astonished at the numbers that knew nothing about it. I found some poor settlers who did

not know whether there was a king or a queen on the throne of England. However, this was not so bad as the parish minister of St Kilda, who, it is said, continued to pray for our late good king, William the Reformer, long after the poor man had been gathered to his fathers.

I was told an anecdote that will illustrate how ignorant some of the most remote back settlers are, as well of public events as of theology, but cannot vouch for the truth of it. ~~In a conversation between two Canadian pioneers,~~ one of them chanced to say something about the death of our Lord Jesus Christ, when the other exclaimed, "Is he dead?" apologising for his ignorance by saying he had not seen a newspaper for a dozen of years.

There are flour mills in Canada that surpass anything of the kind I have ever seen in Scotland—some of them very large. As an instance I refer to Mr Gemble's works on the Humber, which I visited. The building is six stories high, with six run of stones. All the work is done by water power—from the emptying of the waggons that bring the grain to the packing of the flour

barrels. Farmers can always get cash for wheat at these establishments, of which there are in the upper province, according to parliamentary returns, 500 ; and in the year 1834, according to the same authority, there were 677 saw-mills.

A new settler has not much difficulty in getting the neighbours to turn out and assist him to build a house ; but idle drunken fellows are always most forward on such occasions ; and many of them will go to these routs rather than work at home. I went to see two *raisings*, as they are called, one of which I shall describe. It was in the township of Vaughan, and for a poor Irishman and his family. I was on the ground early, and found the settler and his wife busy cooking at a large fire, surrounded by fallen trees and brushwood. The neighbours came by twos and threes, from different quarters, with axes over their shoulders ; and as they came up each got a drink of whisky out of a tin can. The stuff smelled most horribly, yet none of them made a wry face at it. Some had straw hats, some Scotch bonnets ; some had wincey coats, some had none ; all had strong boots, and

most of them had torn "inexpressibles." Those who did not smoke tobacco, and some of those who did, masticated it with the most untiring industry.

Four blocks of wood, about a foot and a half above the ground, marked out the corners of the dwelling that was to be erected before night. On these blocks were laid the first tier of logs, dove-tailed in a very rough way. Four of the most experienced hands took their station, one at each corner, whose duty it was to make the joints and carry up the angles perpendicular. I observed that they took particular care not to let the logs touch each other, except at the corners where they rested. After the walls got so high that they could not lift up the logs, two saplings were cut, and the bark being stripped off to make them smooth, they were placed against the wall in a slanting position. This answered for a *slide*, on which the people below pushed up the logs with crutches, or long poles with forked ends.

At first they went to work moderately and with quietness, but after the whisky had been

handed about several times they got very uproarious—swearing, shouting, tumbling down, and sometimes like to fight. I then left off working, thinking I would be as safe out of the way a little; but this would not do, as they would have no idlers there. The handing round of the whisky was offered to me, but I declined the honour, being a teetotaller. So I had now no choice but commence working again, as I wished to see the end of the matter. I was sick of it before this; for most of them were drunk and all of them excited. The manner in which they use their axes was a "caution." Many accidents happen, and lives are frequently lost on these occasions, both from accidents and quarrels.

In all there were about twenty-four men, one half Irish; on the whole about the roughest specimen of humanity I have ever seen. So much was I disgusted at their conduct, that, even if paid for it, I would not live amongst them. The walls of a house, 15 by 26, and 12 feet high, were up before night; and some of the nearest neighbours were to return next day and

cut out the doors and windows. When all was done they sat down, all about, eating bread and meat, and drinking whisky (I believe of the same quality as that known in Aberdeen by the name of "*Kill the carter*"), making a noise that would have swamped "Old Castle of Fiddes" or "Lumie" in their most uproarious days. I then left them, thinking I would not like the foundation of my house laid with so many oaths to consecrate it as I had heard that day.

Just before my return to Toronto, on my route back to the United States, I went to see a field-preaching in the township of Etobicoke, where I had a good opportunity of seeing the country people, and was rather surprised at the genteel appearance they made. There were several hundreds present; many very handsomely-dressed ladies,—some in riding habits, with hats and veils, some had parasols, and some silk umbrellas; altogether they made a good show.

The meeting was held in a shady grove, amongst the tall pines of the forest. It was an assemblage of Methodists. The preaching and

praying commenced at nine o'clock in the morning and continued till five in the afternoon. All behaved themselves decently except the dogs, who made a noise, and the horses, who neighed to keep them company. The people in general had not the healthy, robust appearance of a Scottish country congregation: they looked more like a number of manufacturing servants; and, although black and sun-burned, they were generally as thin in flesh as hand-loom weavers—that is before these pinching days of actual want blanched their cheeks and sharpened their bones.

CHAPTER VI.

MANUFACTURES IN THE STATES.

Improved Machinery—Capital employed in cotton manufactures—Manufacturing states—Quantity of wool grown—Quality—Price—Cotton Mills in the southern states—Factory at Vacluce, South Carolina—Wages—Belvel factory, in Georgia—Mode of raising a waterfall—Black hands—Wages—Hours of work—Manner of employers to their workmen—Lowell—Cotton-mills—Power-looms—Quantity of cloth made—Hands employed—Woollen-mills—Machine-shop—Factory girls—Wages—Price of provisions—Clothing—Condenser—Wages at Thompsonville carpet-work, Connecticut—Manufactures in Jersey—Manufactures in the State of New York—Country customer work—Mode of payment—Manner of living—Country customer weavers—Clouty carpets—Mills at Rochester—Genesee falls—Manufactures in Ohio—Cincinnati—Wages—Tradesmen's boarding-house—Plenty of beef—Prospects of the manufacturing community.

THE United States have made far greater progress in manufactures than is generally supposed. I certainly was not prepared or expecting to see the splendid and large establishments for the manufacture of cottons and woollens

that I witnessed in the various states I visited. Their machinery, in finish, design, ingenuity, and in the particular and general arrangements for the saving of human labour, has arrived at the same perfection as in England: in fact it is the same machinery. No sooner does an improved machine make its appearance in Manchester, Leeds, or Glasgow, than it is taken up by the machine-makers in Lowell, Boston, and Philadelphia. In this respect they show more wisdom than our mechanics do: for I have seen several arrangements and some machines that have had their origin in America, and, although decided improvements, they have not been adopted by us with the same spirit nor to the same extent as they adopt our improvements. There are no linen manufacturing establishments,—this article being admitted free of duty, when not coloured.

The capital employed in the cotton business at the present time is estimated at twelve millions sterling. The principal manufacturing states are Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maine, Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey.

There are small establishments for spinning and weaving cotton scattered over the southern states, and similar mills, both for cotton and wool, established all over the north-east and western states, but these last mostly for the purpose of facilitating domestic manufactures. It is well known that there is no want of the raw material to supply the cotton-mills; but the amount of wool produced is not so generally known. According to the census of 1840 there were 19,085,962 sheep, excluding North Carolina, Michigan, and Kentucky, the returns for which were not complete. In the year 1839 the state of New York produced 4,012,144 lbs. of wool, Ohio 3,650,970, Vermont 2,257,795, Pennsylvania 3,073,783, Virginia 2,672,044, Maine 1,466,551, New Hampshire 1,260,988, Indiana 1,202,209, Massachusetts 1,055,591, Tennessee 1,029,516, and the other states various amounts, between the 893,675 lbs. of Connecticut and the 45,524 of Louisiana.

The wool in general is superior in quality to that of England, and far superior to our Scotch clips. I think the price of wool is not much different from the price in this country, the

qualities being the same. From forty to fifty cents per lb. is the price of a very good quality, of which they make a heavy but very good broad-cloth; and fine satinetts; the lower qualities, at eighteen to twenty-five cents, are used for carpetting, stocking-yarns, &c.

Although the least important, I will first take some notice of the manufactures of South and North Carolina and Georgia. There are some fifteen different establishments in South Carolina, principally situated in the upper parts of the state; about an equal number in North Carolina, and considerably more in Georgia. They will average rather over 1000 spindles each for cotton; most of them have a condenser and a roller-jack for carding and spinning wool. The goods they make are cotton Osnaburgs—a heavy article, with cotton warp and woollen weft—for negro wear; good linsey and cotton yarns, for sale amongst the farmers for domestic uses; and a good profit they make on this branch, buying the cotton at seven cents per lb., and selling these yarns (Nos. 5 to 9) at twenty-two cents per lb. But I must be brief on the manufactures in this part of the country, as

the demand for hands is very limited, the factories much scattered over the country, and many of them in unhealthy situations, so that I conceive few of my fellow-labourers in the business will be much interested in them. Yet many are induced, for the sake of high wages, to settle here. In some places all the hands, except the overseers, are negroes; as, for instance, at the factory at Columbus, in North Carolina, where they employ upwards of eighty hands; but, in general, there is a pretty equal mixture of black and white. I will submit the factory at Vauluce, in South Carolina, owned by Messrs. Beausket and Jones, as a fair specimen. It was built in 1834, four stories high, of granite; has 1900 spindles, two wool-carding engines (one of which is a condenser), and a roller-jack; employs seventy hands; one overseer, at 600 dollars per annum; an overseer of the carding-room, one dollar and a half per day; a machinist, one dollar and a half per day; the negroes belong to the firm; and the white women and children, who attend the spinning-frames and power-looms, have two and a half dollars

per week on an average. The place is situated about seven miles from Aiken, a small town about 100 miles from Charleston. The country around it is very poor and barren, and they are not very well situated in such places for getting the many comforts and conveniencies of life necessary to make a permanent residence desirable. I lived here a week; and, although very hospitably treated by the manager, I did not consider the situation of the hands at all enviable.

I will here give another example of a southern factory in the state of Georgia, about eight miles from Augusta, owned by Judge Schley. In this part of the country, where the surface is generally level, the mode they take to get a waterfall is this:—they first select a place in the valley or bottom in which the river runs, and build a dike across there—damming the water back for two, three, or four miles, covering a large space of ground—and in this way they get a fall of from eight to twelve feet on the most sluggish streams. Such was the plan of the water-works at the place I now

allude to, commonly known as Belvel Factory. But this is not a good plan; for where there are perhaps twenty mills of one kind or another on a river, and one dam-dike gives way, all below it, to the last one on the river, go slap out; which was the case on Horse Creek, when I was there in the month of March, 1841—just as I have seen a school boy setting up twenty bricks on end, and so near each other that when the first one got a kick, down they went, one after the other, to the end of the chapter.

This factory was partly built of wood, and partly of stone, three stories high; has 1000 spindles, employing forty hands; the principal hands white; a part of the others (black) owned by the proprietor; the weaving all done by power-looms. The judge and his sons superintend themselves. One man, who had charge of the weaving, preparing the warps, and looking after the condenser, &c., had two dollars per day; another machinist, who was making some power-looms, had the same wages; the overseer of the spinning-frames, preparing, &c, had one dollar and a half per day; the other hands had

about the same as at the former place. I noticed here that the slaves would not and did not work so steady as the white people. There was a black fellow spinning after the condenser, and he thought nothing of *setting* his machine and going out to look about him for half an hour at any time. In spinning cotton, mules were formerly used, but now the throstle-frame has mostly superseded them. At these works in the south, they have not any very regular hours, but generally work from daylight till dark all the year round, having seldom more than three-quarters of an hour for meals. In general they work fully as long as in well-regulated factories at home. The houses built for the work-people are not well finished, nor very comfortable. The situation of the mills being low, and frequently in the neighbourhood of stagnant water, are unhealthy. There was another factory, about the same size as the above, at Richmond, about ten miles from Augusta, owned by Governor Schley. Near Athens (seventy miles further up the country, but on the line of the railway), was one

owned by Messrs. Baxter and Dearing; another by a Mr. Williams; each of them about 1000 spindles, with some wool machinery. The manager of Richmond Factory has 800 dollars a year; but I did not find that any of those who had come from the eastern states liked the south. There are many drawbacks. The money is bad; and when they leave the country they lose from twelve to twenty or twenty-five per cent. in getting their depreciated currency into a shape that will be useful in another state. It is very expensive travelling in the south; and I would not recommend any one to go there, unless on an especial agreement. The only thing I liked particularly in this part of the country was the respectful and gentlemanly conduct of employers to their workmen; not that all are upon an equality—far from it;—for if a man is poor, there are a hundred and fifty ways in which he will feel it.

We shall now turn to a part of the country where manufactures have become established on a permanent footing; and where there is no difficulty of finding employment in ordinary

times ; and where the wages are sufficient, in the hands of a sober and industrious man, to maintain his family decently, and send his children to school. All that part of the States lying east of the river Hudson, sometimes called Yankie-land, are manufacturing districts,—Lowell, in Massachusetts (a town of 20,000 inhabitants, near Boston), being the principal site, is sometimes called the Manchester of America, where there is plenty of water power, and where there is invested in the manufacturing business alone, 10,500,000 dollars. There are 32 cotton-mills, running 166,000 spindles, and 5,183 power-looms, consuming annually 1,955,000 lb. of cotton, and manufacturing 58,263,400 yards of cloth, giving employment to 6,430 females, and 2,077 male operatives; besides several establishments for the manufacture of worsted. There are likewise many hundreds of machine-makers employed in the different machine-shops. And the females that are employed in the cotton-mills, instead of spending their nights and spare time in idleness and debauchery, as too many of our factory-girls do, dress them-

selves genteelly and behave decently, cultivating their minds. As an evidence of which, I may mention that they publish a literary periodical, edited and contributed to entirely by themselves; which boasts many articles, both in prose and verse, that would not disgrace a London annual. They have taken a high stand in morals, and will not work or associate with a notoriously indecent girl; and they have turned out and refused to work till such have been expelled.

The ordinary wages for overseers of flats in cotton-mills, is a dollar (4s. 2d.) to a dollar and a quarter a day; and for girls about three dollars a week. A barrel of flour (194 lb.) is generally about 20s. to 25s. sterling; beef 3¹/₂d. per lb.; salt pork 2d.; shoes as cheap as in Scotland, and better made; cloths not much dearer; and linen as cheap as in Belfast. In wool-mills, good hands, in the condensing, spinning, weaving, dying, and finishing departments, have one dollar a day. Children are not much required in wool-mills since the introduction of the condenser—a machine that does away with

the making of rolls, the slubbing billy, and the necessity of employing children for piecing. The machine is not unknown here to those who are acquainted with the business; and I will merely remark, that those in general use have only one cylinder, of the usual diameter—thirty inches to three feet; two small doffers, three workers, and a fancy. The rings on the doffers are about two inches wide; the crank is used for cleaning the doffers; the slivers are rubbed between a system of rollers, that have a circular motion and a lateral one at the same time. The machine winds two spools at a time—one attached to each doffer—on which there are wound from twelve to sixteen slivers, the same distance from each other as the spindles of the spinning-machine. They can generally mend an end and shift the spools without stopping the machine.

There is considerable variety in the make and form of these machines. Some I have seen with the cylinder covered with rings of filleting, corresponding with the rings on the doffer; in which case the wool is taken from the scribbler

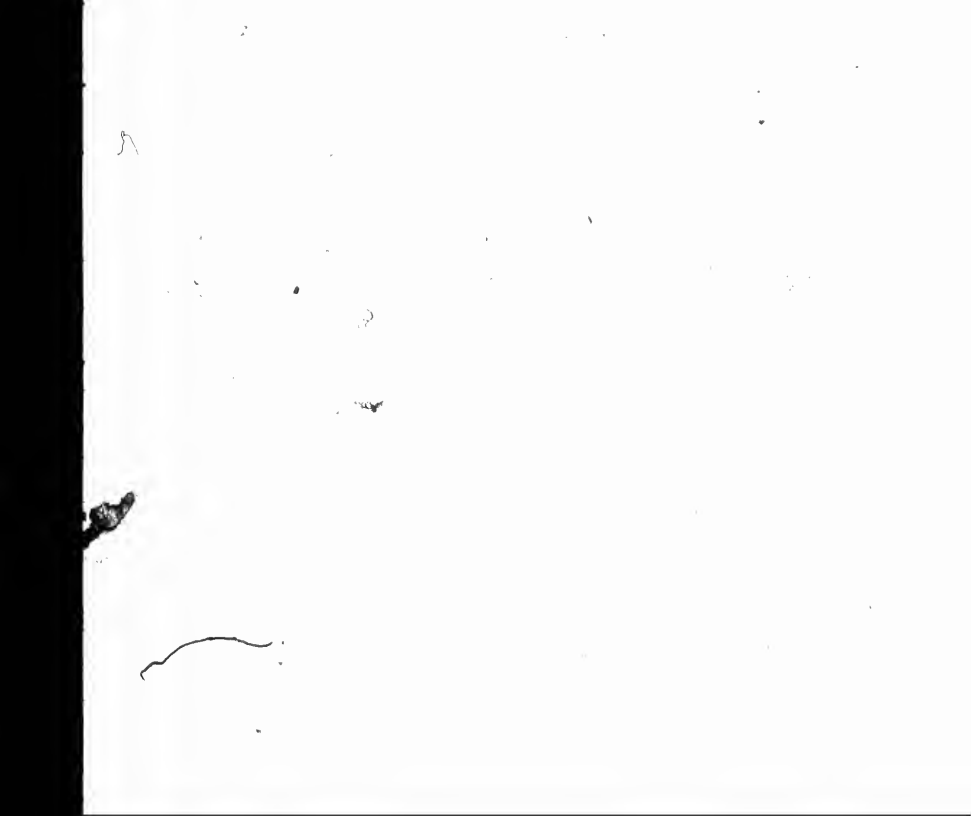
in the form of a heavy sliver, wound on spools, and hung up in a frame before the condenser—one of which is introduced between the feeding rollers, just opposite every ring on the cylinder;—the workers and strippers are covered in the usual way. This plan works pretty well, and is in some respects superior to the other. On these machines they cannot do more than from thirty to fifty pounds a day; and I think it is doubtful if the process is cheapened, or whether it is really any improvement on the old carder and slubbing-billy. I have spun after these machines, both on mules and hand jennies, and I like it better than slubbing; but I do not think they can spin the same quality of wool so small by this process as by the old plan. Perhaps it is better suited to the American manufacturer than the British, because the former has more difficulty in procuring children; and, besides, their wool is easier wrought, shorter, and more equal in quality. Some of our long wools, spun in this way, would make a hard, bare thread; but out of their wool they make a pretty full, soft thread, either for cloth or wheeling worsted.

They are very proud of this machine, and consider themselves the inventors of it; but I have seen the same machine, in principle, in operation at the works of Messrs. Alexander Hadden and Sons, Aberdeen, years before the date of any of their patent-rights. But whether they invented it or not, they deserve the credit of generally adopting a plan that has relieved the little children from very hard work, and from the terrors of the billy-roller.

The wages, throughout the manufacturing states are nearly the same as in Lowell. When I was in New York I called on Messrs. Thompson and Co., 8, Spruce Street, who have a carpet-manufactory at Thompsonville, in Connecticut—one of the largest in the country. I asked a job from them, and they offered me one dollar a day to go out to their place and attend to a flat of carding-machines. They said this was the highest wages they paid to any of their men except the principal overseer, who was an Aberdeen man. The rate of boarding was one dollar and a half per week. A few weeks before, they told me, they sent out to the work, three

carpet-weavers who had just arrived from Scotland, and they appeared to like the place.

Before I left New York, I went over to Jersey, to see the manufacturing town of Paterson, a very prosperous place of about 16,000 inhabitants. They have here almost unlimited water power. There are a number of cotton-factories; also machine-makers, who manufacture all sorts of machinery, of the very best description. There are no woollen-works here; but there are hundreds of small mills scattered over the state, for carding and spinning country work, many of them employing six or eight men, who can earn, on an average, a dollar a day, at spinning and weaving, &c. The same remarks apply to the state of Pennsylvania, where there are several works of considerable extent. Their mode of going to work is, in some respects, different from ours; but any one who has been bred to the weaving and spinning, or carding, in this country, has no difficulty in falling into their plans. Hands are generally employed to work by the piece in all the departments except the carding. Those who en-



gage to work at this department in small concerns generally feed for themselves, cleaning the engine and shifting the spools on the condenser. For country carding they use the same machine as we do—packing up the rolls in the same way, charging generally about 3½d. per lb. There is an immense quantity of work of this kind done throughout all these states. I have been told on all hands that one cannot travel ten miles in any direction through Jersey, Pennsylvania, or any of those which I have enumerated as manufacturing states, without seeing some of these small works. In one district near Patterson, a friend of mine who wrought there named more than ten, and not one of them more than twelve miles from where we stood: and those engaged in these works, as far as I had opportunity of observing, were rather better off in regard to lodging and clothing, and decidedly superior in manners, to people of the same description in Scotland.

The state of New York is full of these places too. Around Poughkeepsie, a town of 10,000 inhabitants, on the banks of the Hudson—

where there is plenty of water-power, and where there are several carpet-works within twenty miles of the place—there are at least thirty of these small establishments. Some of these have as many as eight broad-loom employed, partly on country work, and partly manufacturing for the New York market; at one of them, near Washington Hollow, I wrought for a few weeks, spinning on a hand-jenny of eighty spindles, after a condenser. This place was altogether for country work. A short time ago it was a satinett manufactory. There were eight very good power-loom, but they are not in operation now. The farmers brought the work to the mill in their riding waggons; and when it was for rolls, carried it home with them again to be spun, as in Scotland; but the principal part of the wool brought to mill was left to be manufactured into cloth—flannel, satinett, and broad-cloth. Some paid money, but more wrought on shares; that is, the farmer brought 100 lbs. of wool, which was manufactured into cloth; the manufacturer receiving one half of the finished goods in payment for his work, and the farmer, who

supplied the wool, getting the other half: and this plan is followed very generally through the different states where I have been. Cash is generally paid for carding rolls. The manufacturer pays his store accounts with cloth or yarn; and when he rents the mill of another, part of the rent is not unfrequently paid in kind. Another very common plan is to pay the workmen one half in money and the other in goods. Workmen, after they get acquainted in a neighbourhood, do not dislike this plan so much, as might be supposed; for they can generally pay their own store accounts with goods. If they want a pair of shoes, they can give the shoemaker a piece of satinett that will make a pair of trousers in payment for them, and so on.

I shall now describe how we got on at the place above alluded to. The mill was a frame house, three stories high; the power a bucket-well wheel; in the lower flat were the fulling-mill, scouring-rollers, cropping-machine, &c.; in the next flat there were three carding-machines (two for carding rolls), and one condenser; the third flat was full of power and hand-looms, and the jenny I

wrought on—all as good as if John Sugden, of Leeds, had made them. Here we were paid in money, my own wages and that of the others varying from five to seven dollars a week. We boarded with the *Boss* (at two dollars per week, including washing), who had a family of grown-up daughters; commenced work at sun-rise, and were always called to breakfast before we had wrought one hour. Our breakfast-table was covered with a white cotton Osnaburg cloth; there was always some kind of meat—sometimes roast fowls, hot bread, raw onions (dished up with vinegar and pepper), mush, pickles, buck-wheat cakes (smoking hot, which were very good when buttered on both sides, and eaten with molasses). We returned to work immediately on finishing breakfast; and were called to dinner at twelve, which was not very different from breakfast, only the the tea-things were not paraded with so much show. The workmen sat at table without their coats, with their shirt sleeves rolled up; and I never saw them sit down without washing their

hands, and their face, too, if it was dirty. After dinner we rested an hour; had supper at six o'clock—pretty much the same as at breakfast, and we then wrought till dark. Although the man who rented and carried on the place was a poor hard-working man, the same politeness and good feeling prevailed in the family that I have spoken of as characteristic of the Americans generally. Our Sundays were spent in lounging about; some went to meeting, but more went to gather cherries and huckle-berries. The first Sunday I was there, while sitting at the door, remarking to myself on the gay parties that were driving along the road in their waggons, the *Boss*, thinking, I suppose, I felt lonesome, asked me to go into the room, where his daughters were chattering, laughing, and amusing themselves. When they understood that I liked music, they sung to me the “Braes of Birniebousle,” and “Jessie of Dunblane,” as pleased and as innocent-like as young lambs. This was rather a different way of spending the Sunday afternoon from what I had been taught

in my father's house : yet such is the effect of example, and the influence of bright eyes and sweet voices, that I was pleased.

There are numerous hand-loom weavers throughout all these states, who make a very comfortable living. The way they carry on their work is pretty much the same as that of the country weavers in Scotland, only they have longer webs, and are rather better paid. The kind of work most common is wincey, satinetts, and flannel ; the latter article is very generally used by the country people, for shirts to the men and petticoats to the women. It is always woven white, and the yarn is very good. An ordinary hand with the fly-lay can weave ten or twelve yards easily ; the usual price is about sixpence sterling per yard ; no allowance for warping or gearing. In the agricultural districts, any man that can do this kind of work may get through the world very easily. Many of the farmers have looms in their own houses ; but this is more a matter of necessity than choice, and they consider a weaver in the neighbourhood an acquisition ; will help him to build

a house, sell him a few acres of land, and take an interest in his success. I have been told by weavers and people about the mills, that a good many leave their places and buy—even sometimes get—a few acres of land, and commence in this way. I have seen several who were very comfortable; their houses literally crammed with bundles of yarn, and their children filling bobbins—and who owned a cow or two, a pig, some chickens, lots of Indian corn, and potatoes.

Emigrants of the handicraft class come crowding to the manufacturing towns and well-known districts, where they frequently cannot get work until their means are expended: besides, they glut the labour market, when other places are in want of them: instead of which, if they would just shut their eyes, and walk twenty miles straight into any ordinary well-settled district, they would find profitable employment in this and many other ways.

A number of weavers find employment in all the cities and towns, weaving clouty carpets; but this field is pretty well occupied. Still there are hundreds in New York, Boston, Bal-

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timore, Philadelphia, &c., who make a living in this way.

The next place I wrought at in the States was the city of Cincinnati, in the state of Ohio. But I may mention, that, in my progress out to the west from the state of New York, I stopped at several places along the line of the Erie Canal, where there were factories, some of them rather considerable; for instance, the city of Rochester, where a river as large as the Dee, in Scotland, falls over a precipice 180 feet high, called the Genessee Falls. There are a number of mills here, both cotton and woollen; iron-foundries and extensive machine-shops, and some of the most splendid flour-mills that I ever saw. I could have got a job here, in a cotton-mill, but did not want it.

I arrived in Cincinnati on the 5th November, 1841, I found here several cotton-mills, and two small woollen-works—all having steam-power. Coal was as cheap as on the east coast of Scotland, and superior in quality. I found, from the information of my "brother chips," that there were plenty of small woollen-mills for

country work throughout the states of Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio; and in the latter, in the neighbourhood of Dayton, about sixty miles above Cincinnati, on the line of the Dayton Canal, there are some considerable works: The wages here are nominally more than in the eastern states, but the currency is bad; and, on the whole, I do not think it so good a place for making a sure living, the works being small and far scattered; and when once one falls out of a job, it is difficult to get in again.

I commenced work on the 8th, with J. C. Geisendorff, in the city, who carried on a trade in making ingrain carpets and stocking yarn. The carpet-looms were on the most approved principle. I observed the designs they wrought from were published in Paisley. The weavers made about seven dollars per week. I spun stocking yarn on a roller-jack, something between a mule and a jack, of 120 spindles, after a condenser. On an average I could spin 30 lbs. of 3 lb. yarn, earning about seven and a half dollars per week.

The people in this country never call their

employer *master*; *Boss* is the name most generally used; and here, as elsewhere, I observed the same respectful conduct of the *Boss* to his hands. In speaking to them on the street or in the counting-house, he will say, "Yes, sir," or "No, sir."

The style of living amongst tradesmen in the "Queen City of the West," is superior to anything I had hitherto seen. The usual rate of boarding is two dollars per-week. In the house where I boarded (J. G. Jones's, Seventh Street), we paid two and a half dollars per week. In this house we had, as lodgers, two single ladies—seamstresses, or, as they are called here, tailor-esses. I believe they paid rather less; perhaps one and three-quarters or two dollars. They managed to pay this by working at the needle, and to dress genteelly. There were also one house-painter, whose wages, in winter, was one and a quarter dollar a day, in summer one and a half; a man that wrought in a pork-house, whose wages varied from one to two dollars per day; three cabinet-makers, whose general wages, at piece-work, varied from seven to ten dollars per week (one

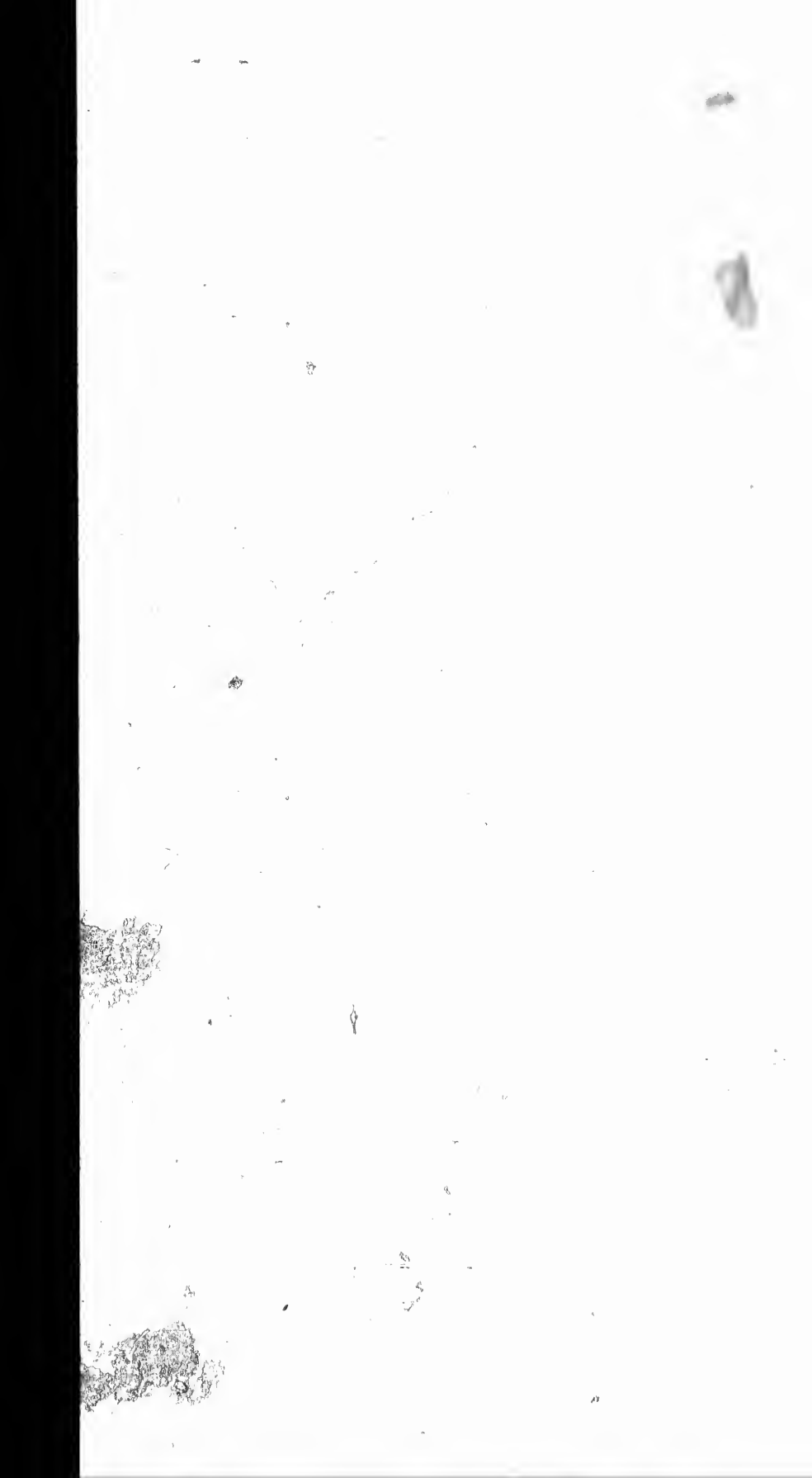
of them sometimes as high as fourteen dollars) ; a *loafer* (that is, an idle fellow), whose wife managed, at dress-making, to keep them both ; and myself, a wool-spinner, making from seven to eight dollars per week. This was our family ; whose wages are a fair sample of what tradesmen can make here. Our bed-rooms were large and airy, but crowded. In my room there were three beds, two sleeping in each ; but the mistress would not venture to put two together without the consent of both parties. I observed they were cleanly in their habits—using night-shirts, washing as regularly as they rose, and rising regularly as day-light began to glimmer. A hand-bell was rung about a quarter of an hour before breakfast, and again when it was on the table, where all, as they came from their rooms, took their regular seats, without *grace*, or waiting for their neighbours ; and, having swallowed their breakfast hurriedly, got up and went off to work. The morning salutations were such as are not very common amongst tradesmen in this country. “ Good morning, Miss Stone ; ” “ Good morning, sir ; ” — “ Morning ; ” — “ Morn-

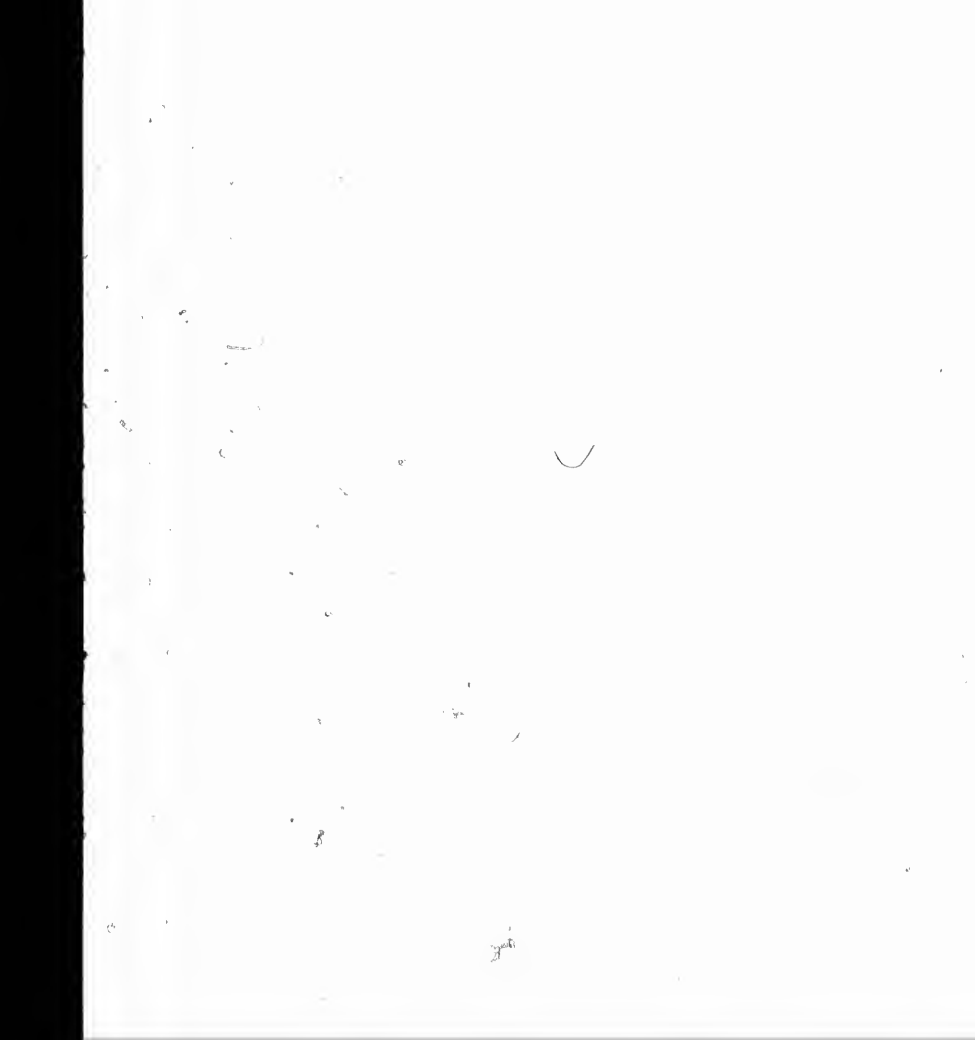
ing," "Morning," all-round. Coffee and tea; ham and eggs (which they eat out of tumblers, breaking in three or four, stirring in a little salt, supping it all up in the time one would be of scraping out the shell of an egg after the fashion of the Old Country); roasted chickens, sallads, pickles, vinegar, pepper (black and red), hot biscuits, Jonney cake, and buck-wheat cakes and butter, were the constant fare at breakfast. But the dinner was glorious:—roast pig, a turkey (the very ruins of which would have dined a small family), and rounds of splendid beef. Capt. Barclay of Ury may say what he chooses about the breed of cattle; I only wish, amidst all his improvements, he could introduce a breed that the working people of this country could get half as good a share of as the labourers in America get of theirs.

The prospect before the master manufacturers is certainly very encouraging; they have raw material in abundance, and a home market, the rapidly-increasing demands of which they have not yet been able to supply. Their boasted

political and social institutions have drawn from all parts of the world hundreds of thousands of the very best workmen, who carry with them the accumulated improvements of centuries in their different trades and handicrafts. But still there are many drawbacks. The principal of these are the want of capital, an ill-regulated system of credit, and an utter want of a circulating medium of any value or stability. Besides, the manufactures of cotton, woollen, iron, &c., depend upon legislative protection for their very existence, without which they could not contend with those of Europe. It frequently happens, therefore, that alterations in the tariff destroy the stability of manufacturing property. But in the face of all this, they are rapidly becoming a manufacturing nation. In the year 1840 they exported 3,549,007 dollars' worth of cotton goods of their own manufacture. I have seen a fair article of broad-cloth made in the state of New York, at from two dollars to two-and-a-half; domestic cottons, of the lower qualities, as cheap as they could be bought in Glas-

gow ; cut nails at four cents per pound ; and all this, not by the labour of a pauper population, but from improvements in mechanics, labour-saving machines, and the abundance of all the materials of wealth.





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CHAPTER VII.

MANUFACTURES IN CANADA.

Wool Mills in Lower Canada—Charges—Mills in Upper Canada—Wages—Price of Machinery—Water Power and Mills at Niagara Falls—Uniformity in the heights of the River—Wool Carding—Mode of Payment—A customer weaver—Number of domestic looms—Improved spinning wheel—Emigration of weavers.

THERE are no manufacturing establishments in Canada, except for domestic purposes. Not having been in the lower province, I cannot speak with much certainty in regard to it. In crossing over Lake Ontario, in the steamer "Transit," I accidentally got acquainted with a gentleman who owned a wool-carding and spinning-mill in Lower Canada. He had been out travelling in the state of Ohio, looking for a place to emigrate to ; but, after visiting a number of similar places in that state, he resolved to remain in Canada, and was then on his way home. This gentle-

man told me there might be about thirty carding-mills in Lower Canada, all of which have fulling-mills attached; and one of these, a considerable work, employing twenty-five hands. Most of them have some machinery for spinning. They charge about 3d. sterling per pound, and the country people grease the wool themselves. Carding is a better job than in the States. They have about the same price for it; but the wool is coarser, and, on the same machine, they can card more of it in the same time. He told me that, in twenty years, he had never known any man erect one of these mills and fail to make a living—unless it was through drink—and he had never known any (including himself) who had made a fortune by it.

In Upper Canada, there are seventeen or eighteen of these wool-mills equally scattered over the province—some of them employing eight or ten men. The hands are mostly paid by the month. From eighteen to twenty dollars, with board, is about the ordinary wages; but frequently one-third or one-half is paid in cloth or yarn.

The condenser has superseded the billy here, as well as in the States; and I have learned what I did not expect—they get the machinery from the States. I saw several cards that had been made in Rochester, about thirty inches wide; two cylinders, with four workers on each, covered with card-cloth, No. 90 up to 120, with traps, &c.; in short, every thing to complete the machine, and make it ready for work, all of the very best workmanship, for 600 dollars. There is no other but water-power; and they have this in considerable abundance. When I visited the Falls of Niagara, on the Canadian side, I found a small woollen factory, employing seven men; they wrought country work, and manufactured a little for themselves. I nearly concluded a bargain to work here for a few weeks at eighteen dollars per month, with board, one-half paid in cash, the other in cloth; but another came in who had a previous promise. This place was built about three quarters of a mile above the Falls, in dangerous-like proximity to the rapids; a pier of rock and loose stones running into the river a little, standing upwards, guiding a stream

of water to the wheel. There is a grist mill, too, similarly situated.

There is no great physical difficulty of employing the great Falls for manufacturing purposes. The river is perfectly manageable; the waters never rising or falling more than a few inches; the extensive system of lakes, regulating the supply of water with a uniformity unknown to any other river. In speaking of the manufactures of the States, I ought to have mentioned a small town on the American side of the Falls, called Manchester, and sometimes Niagara, situated on the edge of the rapids. A company, a number of years ago, attempted to turn this immense power to manufacturing purposes. They built a pier into the rapids, carrying, by means of a canal, a considerable current of water into the town. The different mill sites were to be between the canal and the river, each one having a sluice to supply it with water from the canal—all the water returning to the river before it came to the great Falls. Some of these mill sites are occupied with flour-mills, saw-mills, &c. There is only one small wool-

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carding and spinning-mill; and many of the sluices are running waste water—ready to be let to any one wishing to commence a business requiring power.

I wrought at two carding-mills in Canada; one in the township of Etobicoke, owned by Messrs. Hendry and Scott; the other in the township of Vaughan, occupied by Mr. George Selph, a Yankee. I had twenty dollars a-month in both places, and boarded,—this was the highest wages. The machinery was good—all made in the States. At one of these places, that in Vaughan, there were two power-looms. The system prevails here, of working on shares and paying for work with wool.

These establishments are of great value to the farmers, many of whom have looms in their houses, from which they have a supply of home-made stuffs; and here, too, as in the States, there is a numerous class of country weavers, who make a very good living, working for the farmers, and cultivating a piece of land for themselves. There was one of these, in the last-named township, that I used to visit, of whom I shall take parti-

cular notice, as he is a fair example of this class of tradesmen. His name was John Kelly, an Irish man : he came out here five years ago ; and all the knowledge he had of the business was learned in weaving linen dowlas at a factory near Belfast. He had a wife, two children, and five sovereigns when he arrived in Toronto. He said himself he had only thirty shillings, but his wife told me he had L.5, and I believed her ; besides, he had some friends to advise and assist him. Now he has a nice little frame-house, with a *butt and a ben*, and a stair leading between the apartments up to a roomy garret, where he has his warping stakes. He has also a cow and a calf ; two swine ; lots of cocks and hens ; four children ; with dogs and cats, and all the etcetras of a thriving household. His loom was in a corner of the apartment they lived in, just beside the fire-place, and all around were heavy bundles of woollen yarn. He wrought with the hand-shuttle ; his children filled the *pirns*, and he taught them to read while at work ; now and then swearing "By Jasus" he would murder them. He has four acres of cleared land ; plenty of potatoes, oatmeal, Indian corn, &c.

The wife said, such a thing as wanting provisions for themselves or children never came into her mind, for John had more work than he could do; and she would be perfectly happy if she could just see *Old* Ireland once more before she died.

I observed that there is in universal use amongst the farmers in the States, and in Canada too, a decidedly-improved wheel for spinning wool. It is of the "muckle" wheel species; and the improvement consists in its lightness, its proportion, general finish, but mostly in a simple mode of increasing the speed of the spindle. At the head of the wheel there is a small iron shaft, about the size of a quill, on which there are two pulleys, one about an inch diameter, the other four—the band from the large wheel working on the smallest one. The spindle is placed about seven inches below the shaft, on which there is a pulley, one inch diameter, which is driven with a band from the four-inch pulley on the small shaft above it, increasing the speed of the spindle four times, and enabling the spinner to perform, at least, one-half more work when spinning warp or small yarn.

I often thought it a pity that so many of my countrymen, who have been brought up to the weaving business, should have to labour twelve or sixteen hours a day for the privilege of being half starved and brought to a premature grave, when there is such a wide and continually increasing field open to them, all over Canada and the northern and western states of the Union ; although Lower Canada is probably not the best place to emigrate to. For the purpose of giving some idea of the amount of their domestic manufacture, I may mention that, according to Parliamentary returns, the number of domestic looms is estimated at 13,400 ; and their annual produce is assumed to be—coarse woollen-cloth, about 1,400,000 yards ; flannel, 981,000, and linen 1,366,720.

The condition of the customer weavers all over the States and Canada is equal, if not superior, to that of the country weavers in Scotland, some forty years ago, when every one had a cow and a little bit of land, and when they spent the long winter evenings, as often by the fireside as they did between what is now appropriately

called the "four *stoops* o' misery." But, although there are as good prospects for this class of tradesmen, both in the United States and Canada as for any other, I feel great hesitation in advising any to emigrate; so much depends on individual courage, perseverance, tact, and management. Their previous habits, too, are much against their chance of comfort, and success, in beginning a comparatively new mode of life; but the greatest difficulty of all is in the want of means. I cannot conceive how a weaver, with even a small family, could leave this country and commence, as a customer weaver, in any part of America, unless he could raise some L.30 or L.35 at the least—and where is he to get it?

CHAPTER VIII.

MOBS.

Spirit of licentiousness—Carelessness of human life—A son telling that his father was a murderer—A mysterious circumstance, involving loss of life, excites little interest—Influence of public opinion on judges—A murder committed openly, in a bar-room in New Orleans—Stabbing, fighting, and gouging—Mode of killing people quietly—Lax administration of the laws—A man taken out of prison and hanged before his trial—Gang of murderers and swindlers on the Mississippi—A judge put into prison by a mob, for offering to accept bail for a prisoner—An abolition Mob—A bank mob in Cincinnati, five banks gutted—Risk I ran of a visit from Judge Lynch.

THE worst feature in the state of Society in the United States appears to me to be a disregard of human life, with a very dangerous custom the people have of taking the law into their own hands. Thus periling their liberties, disgracing the country, and, in certain cases, exercising a tyranny more capricious, and more destructive of constitutional liberty, than that proceeding from the written laws of any monarchy. The spirit from which this despotism springs is not,

perhaps, bad in itself. It is the spirit of liberty, but certainly run mad, and crossing over the line that divides it from licentiousness. Murders are committed with comparative impunity: atrocities that would make the blood run cold at almost every fireside in Scotland, are scarcely heard of beyond the bounds of a town. Whether it is that, in Britain, we set too high a value on human life, or whether, in the United States, they estimate it too lightly, I do not know; but there is a very wide difference between the two countries in this respect. Killing a man in an ordinary quarrel (if there is not very strong evidence of previous malice) is not considered a grievous offence, and the actors generally get off with a fine or short imprisonment, when they remain and take their trial; but they very often leave the neighbourhood for some other part of the country, and then there is no more of it.

In the boat I sailed in from New Orleans, there was a lad going to his father in Florida. He was a young traveller to be alone. I made up to him, and he told me he was going to Key West. I asked him what his father was

doing there, when he told me he had killed a man, and was obliged to run away. I asked him how it was. He said, a neighbour and he had quarrelled, and his father came into the house, loaded his rifle, went out, and shot him. Now, although there were a number of passengers beside, who heard the lad telling the story, it did not seem to attract their notice. They did not regard it, or pay any more attention to it than to an ordinary occurrence of every-day life; and the lad related it with as little reserve as if it had been a meritorious action.

While I was living in Cincinnati a strange circumstance took place in our neighbourhood, close by Seventh Street. In a stabler's premises, where country people and others put up their teams, a countryman, one day, in cleaning his horses, had occasion for a brush. After looking for it in the usual place, he found it amongst some straw in a manger; but was surprised and shocked to find a man's hand fastened in it by the band that crosses over the back. One of our boarders, having occasion to be about the stable, told me of it. I went to see, and found

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it lying in the stable, with some of the hangers-on and *loafers* making remarks, more in the spirit of levity, than with the abhorrence which the circumstance was so well calculated to call forth; for it was evident a foul murder had been committed here, and no one regarded the fact, nor knew anything about it. The hand was cut off a little above the wrist, and it did not appear to be more than a week or ten days since it had been cut off. There was a recent cut on the brush, that evidently had been made with an axe—probably by the same blow that had separated the hand from the arm. All the neighbours were convinced that a murder had been committed. I took particular notice of all that was done and said about the matter. All seemed to view the circumstance with perfect indifference. There was no investigation by the authorities, and the story was forgot in two or three days. It was not even taken notice of by the newspapers.

I do not mean to say that all crimes are viewed with indifference; for sometimes the public indignation is aroused to such a pitch that it is difficult for an accused to get a fair trial. In

some states the judges are appointed, by the suffrage of the people, for a short term of years, and the influence of public opinion is felt in their judgments; and the people themselves, while exercising this influence, complain of it.

Shooting and stabbing in the streets are not uncommon occurrences; bowie-knives and pistols are commonly carried. A young man I travelled with for eight or nine days, while in the western states, related to me an occurrence which he had witnessed in New Orleans a short time before. He was sitting in a bar-room, and observed two men come in and go up to the bar; one of them asked the waiter for a light, which he gave, but the man being a little the worse for liquor neglected the lighted paper, till it burned out; he asked for another, which he got; still the cigar was not lighted; when he asked for a third the bar-keeper said he could not be bothered with him, and told him to go away: he immediately laid hold of the waiter by the collar, drew him towards him, across the counter, and, at the same time, pulled from his breast a large bowie-knife, which he plunged into the unfortunate bar-

keeper's back, right through his body, until the point stuck in the table. The man died instantly; and the murderer walked deliberately out of the room, although there were more than a dozen of people in it, and went over to a coffee-room on the other side of the street, where he and his companion ordered supper; and, about an hour afterwards, while they were enjoying their liquor, the personal friends of the deceased, with some policemen, apprehended him. But it was my informant's opinion, that if it had not been for the friends of the bar-keeper, who came in, the murderer might have escaped; and, as it was, he had no difficulty, if so inclined. I do not know the result; but, judging from the punishment inflicted for similar offences, a few years' imprisonment would probably be the extent of it.

It cannot be denied that an indulgence in pugilistic practices (however much patronized by *our* aristocrats) is a serious inroad on the morals of society; yet such is the constitutional infirmity of many individuals, that, when under the influence of passion, or a mistaken sense of insult, they will fight: Still, if men, labour-

ing under the dominion of false judgment, require *satisfaction* (?) how much better is it that they should be guided by laws of *honour* (so-called), have a fair "stand-up fight" and "fair play," than to stab, kill, and gouge each other, as they do in America? When *they* fight, it is a scramble for life; and when they have no deadly weapons in their hands, they bite off each other's noses or ears, or tear each other's flesh like dogs. They have a custom of gouging; and some are even celebrated for expertness in this horrid practice. In the deadly struggle, when one gets on the top of the other, he inserts a thumb in the corner of each eye, and shells them out like muscles. Sometimes gouged eyes can be replaced, but they are frequently torn away altogether. In which case the man is disfigured for life; that is if he has any life left in him after the fight.

They have another very effective mode of *dropping a man*, as it is called, mostly used in the west and in the valley of the Mississippi by robbers, who have none of the redeeming qualities or chivalric pride of a Robin Hood, Rob

Roy, or an O'Hanlin. Their motto is, "Dead men tell no tales." When quietness is an object, they tie a heavy leaden bullet in the corner of a handkerchief, and a slight stroke on the head with such a weapon, makes all quiet enough indeed.

It is not that they want good and salutary laws. But these laws are not carried out by the servants of the public with that perseverance and certainty that a well-regulated state of society requires; and this is frequently the immediate cause of the outbreaks that disgrace this otherwise noble and enlightened country. In almost all cases of mobs that have come to my knowledge, the people seem to be in the right, morally speaking, but this is a poor apology for trampling under foot and disregarding the supremacy of laws they themselves have made. It would be nothing very remarkable if the working men of Great Britain were to take this mode of setting themselves right, but it is utterly disgraceful to the men of the United States—possessed of political franchise, with the ballot-box to protect them in the use of it.

I shall briefly give a few instances of what they do in this way. In the month of October, 1841, there was a man in jail in Kentucky, charged with murder. He had been convicted before of murder in the second degree, and there was little doubt about his guilt in this case; but the people were afraid that the evidence might be defective, and that he would escape a second time. So, to make sure work of it, they took him out of prison, *without trial*, and hanged him.

About two years before this there was a numerous gang of swindlers and robbers banded together, who had invested the Mississippi for years, committing robberies and murders to a frightful extent. It was their regular business, which they carried on systematically; having agencies sleeping, and active partners established along all the principal commercial and travelling routes. They were so strong in wealth and numbers, and at last got so bold and open, that the people could no longer bear it—rose, almost to a man, and shot, hanged, and drowned all connected with the gang, by the dozen.

I was informed of a case that occurred in Buffalo. The captain of a steam-boat running between that place and Cleaveland, on a trip down the lake, took a fancy to a passenger, a good-looking country girl. She had a brother on board; but, in the afternoon, the captain managed, by treating him with liquor, to make him drunk; and, in the evening, he told the girl where she was to sleep, pointing to his own room. The girl, who had never been from home before, had no suspicion of his design, and laid herself down to sleep. The captain went into the room, and threatened to take her life if she made the least noise, and remained with her a considerable part of the night. In the morning, she told her brother, who mentioned the circumstance to some of the passengers; and, before they got to Buffalo, it was generally known amongst them. However, none of them mentioned it to the captain till the boat was alongside the wharf, when they went forward, laid hold of him, and marched him up to the court-house. After hearing evidence, bail was offered by the captain's friends and accepted by the court. By this time

story was noised abroad through the city. A great crowd was gathered before the house ; when it was determined not to allow the judge to accept of bail, and they sent in word of their resolution, the reason of which was, that they suspected he would run away. The judge was firm : told them he had done his duty, and would stand to it. Then the people demanded that the captain should be again delivered into their hands. This was refused, and the doors were bolted. The house was then guarded all round by the mob. Some of the citizens brought out their arms ; and, before a quarter of an hour, a piece of ordnance came rattling along the street at full speed—some of the men having their uniforms on. They unlumbered the gun, and cleared the space all round ; loaded, primed, and pointed it at the house with the greatest deliberation. When the match was lighted they ordered the judge and captain to come out, otherwise they would blow the house about their ears ; and would have done it, but they surrendered. The mob marched both judge and captain up to jail, handed them over to the keeper, and told

him to answer for their safe keeping with his life. And that captain has, while I write this, the pleasure of teasing oakum in Sing Sing; and, having been sentenced to ten years' imprisonment, will not have completed his task when this little book of mine is perhaps forgotten.

There was an abolition mob in Cincinnati a fortnight before my arrival, and the excitement had hardly subsided then. Let it be remembered, Ohio is a non-slave state. Two boys were playing near the canal, and bothering a negro man, who got into a passion, and stabbed one of them with a knife. The negro was apprehended; but the citizens were so indignant at the outrage that they determined to hunt the negroes out of the town altogether. For this purpose, they met at Fifth Street Market, some thousands strong, with rifles and two field-pieces, and marched in regular order to the district of the city where the negroes principally resided. The blacks were numerous, and rumour said they were to show fight. Many of them had arms. Some said they fired on the citizens, and others not. There *was* some firing; but I

could not ascertain if any of the blacks were killed, the accounts were so various. Some of them, I believe, did not want to tell the truth. The end of the matter was, that they hounded them out of the town, and not a negro durst show his black face in the town for a week. Many of them fled to the authorities of the town for protection; and the jail-yard was crowded with the poor creatures who had fled for their lives.

An arrangement was immediately come to, between the authorities and the citizens; to the effect that no negro should be allowed to live in the city who could not find a white man to become his security, and be answerable for his conduct.

There were two days of mobbing. The second day they gutted an abolition printing establishment, and sunk the press in the middle of the Ohio River, where it now lies—while perhaps the outlandish-looking fishes, in happy ignorance of the strife and contention of the world above, are snuffing about it, and making as sage conjectures about its use, as some of our philoso-

phers do when they attempt to enlighten an ignorant world, by explaining things they know nothing about themselves.

While I was in Cincinnati a very serious bank mob took place. In order that this case may be understood, I may mention that there were a number of small banking establishments which, although not strictly legal managed, by "hook or by crook" to get a large quantity of their notes into circulation, and as the times grew worse they fell in value. Such a thing as getting cash for them at *par* was never heard of in the best of times; and now, as there was some prospect of the state passing an act, compelling all to resume specie payments, these establishments got embarrassed, and some of them began to fail in being able to redeem their issues with notes of other banks. Several throughout the state and in the city became bankrupt in the most fraudulent manner. The people were roused, and made a run upon them. One morning the run upon the Miami Exporting Company's Bank was so great that their funds also ran short. Now, although their notes bore to

be payable in specie, the people only demanded the notes of other banks in which they had a little more confidence. However, they stopped about ten o'clock in the morning, and a shout ran through the crowd to mob them. Immediately the window-frames were smashed, the doors broken, and the establishment completely gutted ;—counters, desks, books, papers, money, &c., being promiscuously hurled to the street, amidst the shouts and execrations of the mob.

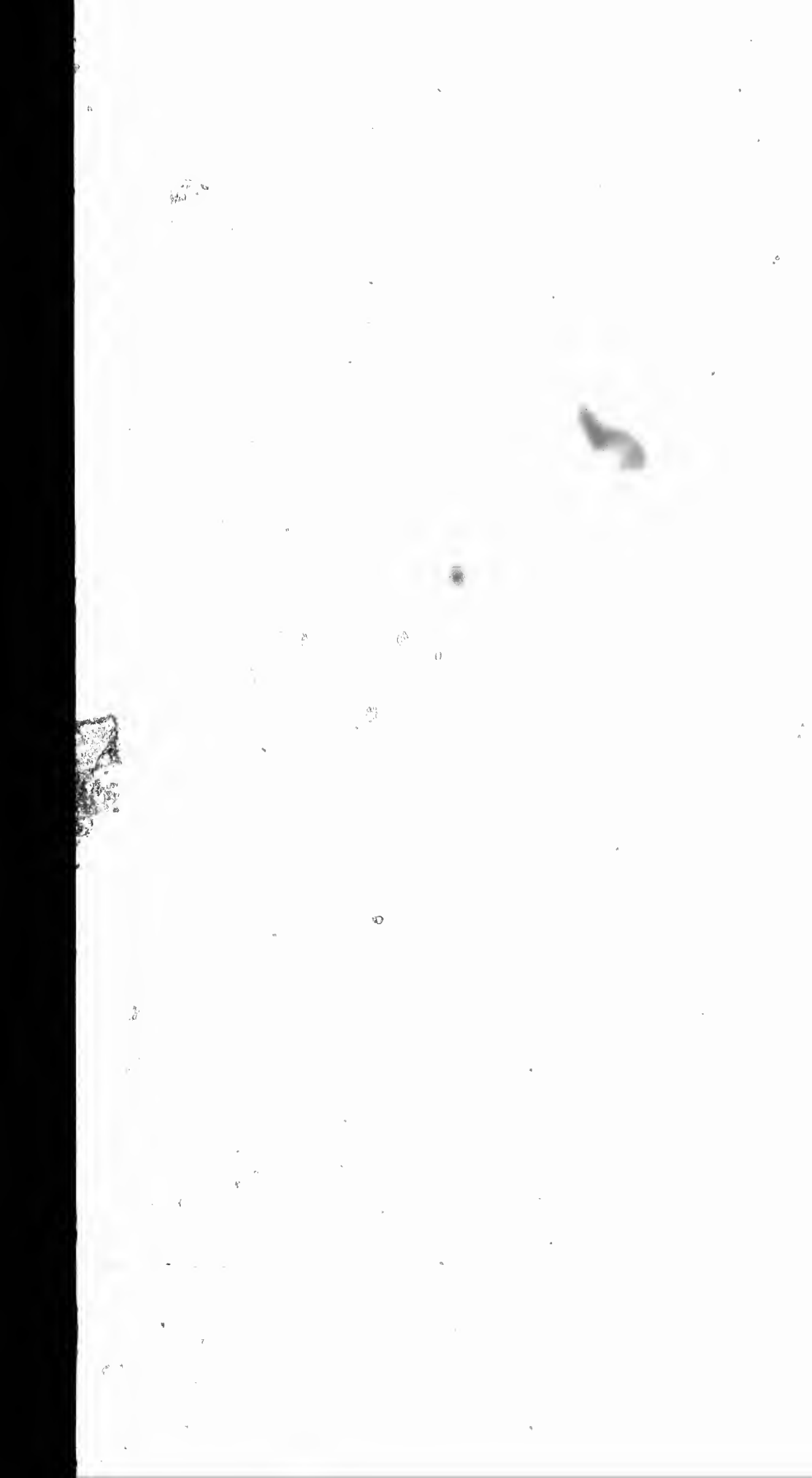
When I got to the scene of action, which was at the corners of Main and Third Street, a party of sixteen or eighteen soldiers had taken possession of the ransacked building. The mayor and the marshal of the city attempted to address the mob, but in vain, for they could not be heard. The marshal, a bold, active man, was on horseback, riding through the streets, calling upon all good citizens to disperse, but few such were to be found. They then tried a *ruse* ;—they rung the city bells to the startling and well-known tune of "FIRE," but this also failed. The firemen and many of

the citizens, with the involuntary movement of well-trained soldiers, started at the word of command, and began to run to their stations.

At this time I was standing on the steps in front of the Old United States' Bank, which was crowded with spectators looking down upon the scene, when I observed one of those little incidents that have turned the fate of greater field days than this. As the firemen and others were running past, just opposite to where we stood, a fellow got up on a cask or box, at one of the shop doors, where he stood conspicuous, with his thumb at his nose, and his fingers stretched out, thereby intimating, in his way, that a deceit was about to be practised on them. The people "smelled a rat," and immediately returned to the work of demolition in greatly-increased numbers, and apparently more exasperated, both at the cheat practised on them, and at the sight of the soldiers. They stood at bay for some minutes, moving a little backwards and forwards, evidently preparing for a struggle. The troops had their bayonets fixed and their muskets levelled. There was not

more than ten yards between them. The crowd began to throw brick-bats. Two or three of the company fired. The crowd then came forward like a wave of the sea; the company fired a volley, and several of the rioters fell wounded. Such a shout was then raised, all along the crowded streets, and from the spectators on the tops of the houses, as I never heard before; for I had never seen the "sovereign people" in a rage till now.

By the time the smoke and dust cleared away, and the astonishment of the moment past, there was not a feather of the soldiers' caps to be seen. The authorities ordered them to fall back to the mayor's office, which was immediately in the rear. This was a wise movement; for, I think, if they had remained other five minutes it would have been doubtful if any of them would have "chewed their cud" over their pork that night. I believe the mayor had strong doubts whether he had any legal right to shoot the citizens on such an occasion; and no more soldiers appeared that day. It is true, all the *companies* were ordered out, but they paid no attention to this



order; in fact, the greater part of them had not time, for they were busy, in the mob, helping to wind up the affairs of the banks; and this they did, effectually, before night.

After this, the mob had complete possession of the city, and the *run* upon the banks continued; but they gave them fair-play. As long as they were able to redeem their notes they allowed them to go on, but the moment the funds run short, smash went the windows and doors; and the work of destruction commenced. The bankers fled for their lives. In this way they demolished the inside of five of these "shin-plaster manufactories," as they called them, before night.

There were a great number of special constables sworn in, and they came out about two o'clock, each with a handkerchief tied round his hat to distinguish them. They threw themselves in lines across the streets leading to the mobbed parts of the city, allowing every body to pass away from, but none towards, the disturbed districts; but it would not do. The people broke through; and I do not think the

constables cared much. The sympathies of the most respectable citizens were with the people ; and I observed many of them, in the streets, rubbing their hands with glee, and laughing, as one after another of these swindling establishments were turned inside out. The mayor was even suspected of not doing all he could, and was tried for it afterwards, but acquitted.

The mob went to work very deliberately, and, after they had everything their own way, with good humour. I was pleased with the spirit of "fair-play" shown to the Planters' and Mechanics' Banks, which were thought to be weak. The cry to pull them down was frequently raised, but a number of the active rioters defended the premises stoutly, and they continued, through the day, to redeem their notes. The run upon them was tremendous, but they stood out the storm ; and, at night, posted bills, stating that they would open next morning an hour before the usual time.

There were several of those engaged in the riot apprehended throughout the day ; some of them with considerable sums of money on them.

Everybody had plenty of money that day, such as it was. The very children were running about with handfuls of dollar bills ; several of which fell to my share ; and I have them yet as trophies, and an evidence of the mode of regulating the currency in the " Queen City of the West." There were several other banks in the city, respectable establishments, in which there was plenty of good money and specie, but the mob never made the slightest move towards them.

These are examples enough, to give some idea how the Americans execute judgment when they take the law into their own hands. There was one case more in which I nearly got into the hands of Judge Lynch.

In my passage out from Liverpool to Charleston, in the barque "Harriet and Jessie," of Charleston, Captain M'Kown, the captain and I had many arguments about slavery. He held that the negroes did not belong to the same species of human beings as white men. I combatted this argument ; and held out against the assumed right of any class of men holding

other in bondage. Although we differed in opinion on this and some other things, we got along very pleasantly; but the morning after our arrival in Charleston, when he went ashore to the custom-house, he reported me as a *rank Scottish abolitionist*, and as such I was entered in their books. There was an excitement immediately. The authorities and mob were after me, but, fortunately, I had left early that morning in the steamer "Beaufort District," for Beaufort, in happy ignorance of the risk I ran; for if they had caught me there, I would have been tarred and feathered, at the very least; and any very rough treatment, or exposure, in my then delicate state of health would, in all probability, have ended my days. Some of my brothers' friends, who were aware of the circumstances under which I came to the country, endeavoured to allay the excitement. The captain disappeared, and could not be found for two days. After diligent search by the owners of the vessel, he was found, and, on farther examination, retracted his report, and my name, as an abolitionist, was deleted from the custom-house

books. I have not the vanity to suppose they thought me the celebrated George Thompson ; but still I do not think Thomson is a favourite name there.

The principal owner of the vessel, a highly-respectable gentleman in Charleston, did everything in his power to place the circumstance in its proper light ; and to him I am under great obligations. I do not know whether to call the captain a fool or a rascal : he was probably both. However, he left the vessel, and Captain O'Conner now commands her.

I was, afterwards in Charleston, and lived at the Planters' Hotel, where I entered my name in the book of arrivals, as is usual, and the country to which I belonged, but received no molestation whatever.

I probably would not have taken notice of this circumstance, if it had not been to warn others, travelling in slave states, to be extremely guarded in their expressions upon the subject of slavery. There is an officer in every town, whose duty it is to look after all strangers ; and the summary mode of treating suspected persons is a very cogent reason for carefulness.

It is very foolish, indeed, in the people of the slave states to expect any community of feeling or sympathy, further than what justice requires, from men born amidst the hills and vallies of Scotland, consecrated to liberty by the blood of Wallace and Bruce,—where the only remains of foreign domination or slavery are the cairns raised over the graves of the once powerful Dane and the still more powerful Roman.

CHAPTER IX.

SLAVERY.

Baptizing slaves—Their behaviour—Appearance in the Church—Ideas of religion—Sacrament of the Supper—Their dress—Anecdote of a slave and a ram at church—Politeness—Marriages—Separation of families—Shops for the sale of negroes—Value of slaves—Treatment of old slaves after they are unable to work—Old Saw threatened with the whip—Trial of a slave who murdered his master—Negro houses—Negro funk—Stated tasks—House servants—Whipping with the cow-skin—Humanity of the planters—Abolition—Cheerfulness of the slaves—Factory slave of England—Kindly feeling of the native Planters—Comparison of the American slaves and the British.

ON my arrival in South Carolina, the first thing that particularly attracted my attention was negro slavery. Two days after my arrival in Beaufort, the quarterly meeting of the Baptist Church occurred, being Sunday the 11th October 1840; and, as I understood that some sixteen or eighteen negro slaves were to be baptized,

I went to the river in the morning at seven o'clock, and found the banks crowded with some hundreds of black faces, and a few white people.

It was a beautiful morning, with a clearer sky than is often seen in Scotland. I almost expected to see something ridiculous, but, in reality, the whole affair had rather an imposing and solemn effect. The black people behaved themselves decently, and with great propriety, much more so than a parcel of young gentlemen who were looking on, enjoying the scene in their own way, but not much to their credit, as men of sense or good feeling. The parson, who was dressed in a white gown, went into the river, till the water came up to his waist. A very large fat negro man, named Jacob, one of the deacons of the church, led the people into the river, and stood by, while the parson immersed them, I suppose, to see that none of them were carried off by the stream; and sure enough, it would have taken a pretty strong tide to carry *him* off. They went into the river one by one, the men first, and

then the women. The effect was really solemn, as the clear voice of the pastor resounded through the crowd, and along the banks of the river, with the words—"I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost—Amen ;" and when all was done, they came up from the river, in a body, singing the beautiful hymn—

" I'm not ashamed to own my Lord,
Or to defend his cause :
Maintain the glory of his cross,
And honour all his laws."

At eleven o'clock we went to church, which was very crowded. I believe there are about twelve or fourteen hundred negro members belonging to it, partly house servants, but mostly slaves from the cotton plantations in the neighbourhood. In the church, the negroes (with the exception of those who were baptized in the morning), were seated in the gallery, the men on the one side, and the women on the other. They had a very strange appearance to me. It was a novel sight to see so many blacks. They appeared all very much alike, as much so as a flock of sheep does to a stranger. In their outward

appearance, they were the most serious and attentive congregation I have seen. After prayer and praise, the negroes who were baptized in the morning, were requested by the pastor to stand up, when he addressed himself to them; telling them particularly their duty to God and to their masters, and to hold fast by the profession of Christianity they had that day made. Then the pastor, the Rev. Mr Fullen, who was standing, surrounded by his elders, immediately before the pulpit, told them to come forward, and receive the right hand of fellowship. As they came forward, he took them by the hand, and bade them welcome as brethren in Christ. I took particular notice of the shaking of hands. It was a real transaction; and in the act, the women made a curtsy, and the men a bow, with a better grace than many of the servant lads and lasses in this country would have done. All, except one, were new members; and on this one they had been exercising church discipline; I believe, for incontinence; but, after a reprimand before the congregation, he was bid "Go in peace, and sin no

more." All churches admit them as members, after instructing them in the great features of Christianity and some of the most practical and useful dogmas. I frequently conversed with them on this subject, and they generally had a tolerable scriptural idea of Hell and the Devil, of God and Heaven, and of Jesus Christ, who died for their sins ; or, with the idea of a little schoolboy, they would tell me that Heaven is good, and that Hell is bad,—that the wicked will be punished in the one, and the good enjoy the other. Yet some of them are learned in the Scriptures. I have heard them praying and exhorting in their own homely way ; but, as with their white brethren, this does not appear to have any practical effect on their conduct.

In the afternoon the Sacrament of the Supper was administered. There were black deacons, who handed round the bread and wine to the negroes. They all used the same wine and bread. The white people did not use any of the cups that the slaves drank out of, but the cups that the whites had used were then used by some of the slaves. The negroes have gene-



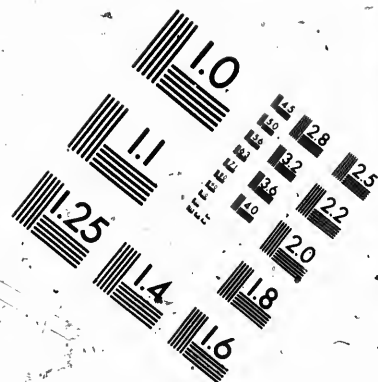
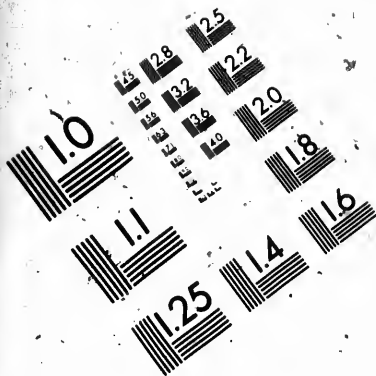
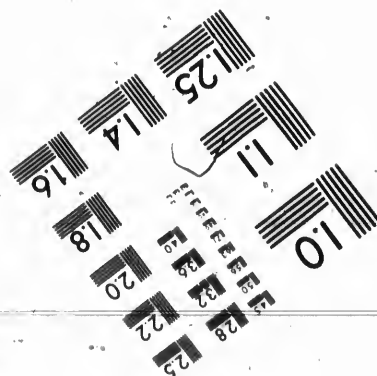
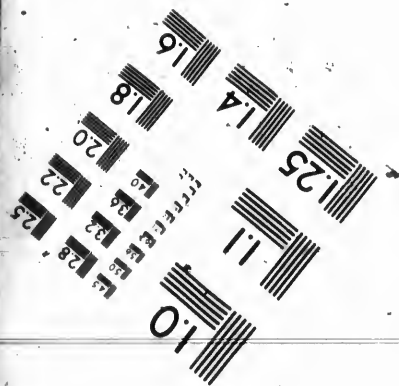
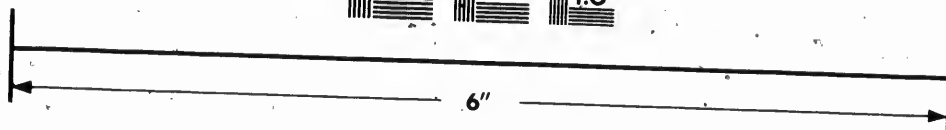
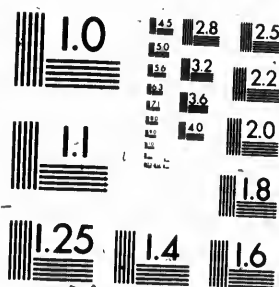


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rally fine voices, and they joined in the psalmody of the church. They, of course, do not use any books ; for it is contrary to law to teach a negro to read or write ; but the pastor gives out the hymn in two lines at a time. They appeared to pay great attention to the service ; but I was sorry to observe that the minister never turned his eye to the galleries, nor addressed himself to the limited capacities of the slaves. Judging from the discourse, and the manner of the minister, one would not have known there was an ignorant negro in the house, although there were five or six times as many black skins as white.

It would be a hard task to describe the dress of the slaves. The men could not have presented a greater variety of dress if a cart-load of clothes, beggars' duds, gentlemen's dress-coats, with silk-velvet collars, good hats, shocking bad hats, the miserable remnants of black and white "castors" that had served a severe apprenticeship to their masters, and all sorts of inexpressibles, had been all mixed together, and each one sent blindfolded to put on what first came to hand ; and this would, indeed, convey

some idea of their dress. About one-half of them had shoes on. I have often heard it said, it is the life of an old hat to cock it well, but never saw the thing so well illustrated as I did here. Their plantation dress, although coarse, is far more becoming; but they are so vain, and their taste is so little cultivated, that they prefer, when going to meeting, the very rags and tatters of an old dress coat to their own Osnaburg jacket. A few were as well dressed as many white men.

The dresses of the females were about as varied as those of the men. One uniform custom prevails of wearing gaudy-coloured handkerchiefs on the head, *a la turban*, many of them tartan, the bright and heart-warming colours of which seemed strangely out of place on the head of a slave.

I was told a ludicrous circumstance that had occurred lately. It is customary, when the church is thronged, for the slaves to sit on the stairs; sometimes they bring stools with them, on which they sit about the doors. One Sunday, an old slave, whose black head was turned

grey, sat down at the door on the remainder of an old chair. From the heat of the day, and perhaps partly from the soporific quality of the discourse, the old man fell asleep, and was nodding very comfortably. This attracted little attention from the congregation, but it did not escape the observation of a ram that was feeding close by. Every nod the negro gave, the ram approached a little closer. He stood at bay, in the attitude of boxing, just for a sufficient length of time to attract the attention of the minister and a great part of the congregation, who saw what was coming, but had not time to interfere before the unconcious old man gave a larger nod than usual. The ram considering this a fair challenge, came bang up against his head with a crack that would have fractured the skull of any white man, and sent him in at the church door on his back, with the broken chair on the top of him, shouting murder, amidst the ill suppressed laughter of the congregation.

After the services of the day were over, I was amused with their appearance and manners, when they congregated in crowds and groups around

the church, after the manner of the people in country parishes in Scotland, but with much more of light-hearted happiness in their black and glistening faces. Their politeness, too, was pleasing, though it amounted to the ridiculous—a shaking of hands, such bowing and scraping; the young wenches kissing each other for very joy. “How you do, Miss Diana?” “Pretty well, Massà Talleyrand; how you do?”—Curtseying, chattering, and laughing, and showing rows of pearly teeth that a duchess might envy. What a contrast appears between these and their task-masters, as they lead their ladies to their carriages, through the crowd,—thin and delicate, with care and disease written upon their wrinkled but haughty brows. Surely, I said to myself, these men suffer more of the evils and the curses that always follow slavery than the slaves themselves.

The negroes are allowed to do as they please, with regard to marrying and becoming members of churches. Their masters prefer that they should marry, as it is favourable to increase; and I found, more frequently than might

be expected, that they choose a wife from a different plantation. The reason of this is to give them an apology for getting away when their task is done ; or, on Sundays, to see their neighbours, which they are very fond of.

The slave owners are not apt to separate families, although they are always liable to be sold ; but, in reality, they are not so much scattered as the families of working men in Scotland, whose necessities compel them to separate at an age when the American slave is running about, gathering health and strength, and playing mischief. In the slave states there is something of the spirit of the ancient feudal times. The planters like to keep up the number of their slaves ; and it is considered, if not disgraceful, at least an evidence of failing credit and respectability to be obliged to sell their negroes.

When a man and his wife, or a mother and her daughter, who love each other, are separated, they complain of it to their owners, who make an arrangement either to "buy or sell." This is frequently done. Sometimes slaves are bought at private sale, but more frequently at auction.

In several southern cities, I observed shops full of negroes for sale. In New Orleans they were most numerous; where there is a street with nothing in it but stores for the sale of negroes. They are tricked off to the best advantage, sitting on seats all round the store, and under the shade at the doors. I tried to screw up my courage to go in and ask the price of some of them, but could not do it. However, I frequently saw them selling at auction in the streets and market-places. Good house servants and mechanics frequently bring one thousand dollars; field hands and labourers, five hundred. The value of negroes on a plantation, including old and young, may average about 350 dollars each. The value of this kind of *property*, as they call it, is very fluctuating. It is considered real property, and is conveyed by regular articles and title-deeds. Money is borrowed on it by mortgage, and it is willed away the same as houses or land.

According to law, a slave cannot hold any property; but, in practice, many of those who are hired out make more money than the stipu-

lated wages their owners require. With this they are allowed to do as they please.

I took particular notice how masters treated the old slaves after they were unable to work in the fields. Their laws provide that they shall be fed and clothed ; but I found that a better feeling than necessity prompted the planters to minister to the wants of their aged servants. They have their houses, blankets, shoes, clothing, and their allowance of corn, the same as prime hands. I knew some of them that had been toddling about for twenty years after they were unable to work. Many of these old hands keep themselves in tobacco, molasses, &c., by feeding a pig, or raising a few chickens. To feed them, they will cultivate a little patch of ground, but as frequently steal corn from "Massa" for this purpose ; and, after all, if the planter's family want to buy any of their eggs or chickens, they will not sell them to them one cent cheaper than the regular market price. These old hands are a sort of privileged persons, and are never abused or neglected. I was acquainted with a planter on Beaufort Island, who had a little wrinkled

slave called "Old Saw." He was so old that he remembered the "war of independence." He had been his father's coachman, and his own for many years. When a boy, this negro attended him when he went out; taught him to ride and hunt; and, although the planter's head was now silvered over with the frost of years, "Old Saw" still looked upon him as a boy, and often spoke to him as such. One day "Old Saw" did something that displeased the planter very much. He gave the old man a scolding, and told him he deserved to be whipped for it. "Old Saw" bristled up like fire, exclaiming—"You whip me!—you whip me! You little rascal, I knew you 'fore you was born. I knew your daddy a *picayune*. You little rascal, you whip me!" The gentleman retreated to the house; but "Old Saw" followed him into the drawing-room amongst the ladies, who, by their laughter, encouraged the old fellow till the planter was fairly obliged to leave the room. "Old Saw" retired, not even deigning to reply to the ladies, who tried to pacify him, muttering to himself, "Little rascal, whip me!"

A negro, whether he is bound or free, cannot bear evidence against a white man in any of the slave states; but when he commits any grievous offence, he has the benefit of trial by jury, but not by his peers, any more than the labourers of this country can be tried by theirs. However, I believe they get a fair chance for their lives. To illustrate this, I shall mention the case of a planter who was murdered by one of his own slaves in Beaufort District, in the spring of the present year. It is a custom with those planters, who do not live upon their estates to go once a-week and serve out provisions to the people. This gentleman found that his corn-house had been entered in his absence. He suspected his driver or head slave, and taxed him with having stolen his corn. The negro denied that he had anything to do with it. The planter told him if, on his return, he found the practice continued, he would not serve him out his allowance. But, poor gentleman, he never returned; for this same slave waylaid him on the road, in the dusk of the evening, and coming suddenly behind him with a club or grubbing hoe,

beat out his brains—mangling him in a shocking manner, after which, he threw the dead body into a neighbouring swamp. The cunning of the slave was remarkable. He joined in the search that was immediately made for the missing planter; and, I believe, actually had the nerve to be the first to discover the mangled corpse. It was a fortnight after this before suspicion rested on him. When apprehended, he confessed all. Counsel was assigned him; and, when brought to trial, he pleaded guilty. The court advised him to retract his plea of guilt, and take his trial; but he would not. He said he had murdered his Massa, and could not deny it. When asked his reason for committing so horrid a crime, he said it was the devil that put it into his mind, and he was now sorry for what he had done; for Massa was always good to him. He was executed on the spot where the murder was committed. All the slaves in the neighbourhood were turned out to witness the execution; and when the sheriff asked if any of them would assist to run him up the limb of a tree, a number of them came

forward very readily, and gave their assistance—evidently satisfied with the justice of the sentence.

On plantations, each family has a small house, generally built of wood, in rows, and mostly with some show of taste or regularity. I have inspected plantations where they work from ten to one hundred hands; and shall describe one house, which will serve for a specimen in general:—Built of wood, covered with shingles, ten feet wide, twelve or fourteen feet long; a chimney and fireplace at one end, sometimes made of lath and plaster, sometimes built of brick, without any stove or grate, which, indeed, there is no use for; a few boards in one corner, sometimes raised a little from the floor, to lie on; and this, with a blanket, constitutes their bed. They have frequently an old trunk or box for holding their clothes, although many of them have little occasion for such a convenience; a pot, an iron spoon or two; some firewood in the corner; a little black negro lying naked in the floor, scrambling about, as plump and shining as the hair bottom of a new chair; a seat at the door of the

cabin, where they sit, sometimes nursing, sometimes sleeping. They have locks on their doors, which are necessary, for they steal like rats. They frequently have a few chickens, or a pig or two, in a little crib before their houses; which they sell, or trade away for tobacco, molasses, &c.

In their persons they are dirty. They have a nasty smell, commonly called *negro funk*, which is quite perceptible, and not very agreeable, "when they pass between the wind and your nobility." They are very careless of their clothes,—careless of their houses, or whether they be clean and comfortable; so much so, that I knew one who shifted his bed from one corner to another, when the rain came in, to save him the trouble of putting a shingle on the roof. But the fact is, when it rains they cannot mend the house, and when it does not rain, it is not necessary to have them water-tight. They have stated tasks to perform. Custom has established great uniformity in the amount of work they have to perform; and, as far as I could judge, from the physical condition of the slaves, and the length of time they are generally in the

field, they are not overwrought. I have seen them finish their task by mid-day, and some may not have finished their task when it is dark in which case the deficiency is carried forward and added to their next day's work ; but, in general, they have no difficulty in accomplishing their tasks. Those of them who are employed as house servants have not one-fourth so much work as a Scotch servant lass : but they do not sleep very soft at night—which, indeed, is no luxury in a warm climate, generally laying themselves down, with their blanket about them, in the hall or lobby of the house, or about the landings of the stairs. The “cow-skin” is not much used in the field. The driver is always a black man, who has the immediate oversight of the hands in the field. Sometimes he carries a bundle of small wands, perhaps five or six ; some have a horse-whip, which they apply to the shoulders of the women, and the bare buttocks of the men, when they make bad work or misbehave in any way ; but this sort of punishment is not very severe. It is when the “cow-skin,” a piece of hide twisted into the appearance of a riding-switch,

sometimes *painted red*, is applied to their bare back for some heinous offence, that they make the woods ring with their cries, which I have heard ; but I never saw the punishment inflicted, and I hope never shall.

But truth is all the end I aim at in writing these pages. Truth, then, compels me to say that the planters in general treat their slaves with great humanity. Would to God the aristocracy or the government of this country would interest themselves half as much to improve the physical condition of the factory slave of England ! After I got acquainted with the planters, I used to speak freely on the subject with some of them ; and some of the more moderate and reasonable did not pretend to defend slavery, on principle or from nature. It is a curse entailed on them : and how are they to get clear of it ? No practicable plan has been proposed to them. If the philanthropists throughout the world want to free the negro race, and assert the inalienable rights of human nature, they ought to follow the example of the Government of Great Britain, in freeing the West India negroes, at least as far

as indemnity goes. It is too much to put the planters to great pecuniary loss for the pleasure of those who wish to rescue the negroes from domestic slavery. From what I have said, it will appear to those who knew my opinions on slavery before I visited that country, that, like most others, who can judge dispassionately, I have changed my opinions considerably. Although there are many cases of great cruelty, domestic slavery, in the southern and slave states of America, is not that horrid system of cruelty and oppression that is represented in this country. It is true slaves can neither read nor write, have no intellectual cultivation, and yet, I believe, they laugh and sing more than any class of men on earth. I have seen them laughing at the jokes of the auctioneer who was selling them at at public auction, like the beasts that perish. This, by some, will be called strong evidence of the great evils of the system. Well, be it so. I only wish, without being in their stead, I could laugh as hearty and as often as they do.

I must bring this chapter on slavery to a conclusion, although I have not expressed one half

of the observations I made in my travels through the southern states. Yet, one remark more.—I have seen children in factories, both in England and Scotland, under ten years of age, working twelve hours a-day, till their little hands were bleeding. I have seen these children whipped, when their emaciated limbs could no longer support them to their work; and I believe there is not a planter in America whose blood would not rise, and whose arm would not be lifted up to defend even the negroes from such cruelty; especially the native planter, who is much better to his negroes than the planters that have been brought up in free states. This is an acknowledged fact, and therefore I need not illustrate it. If I were to look for the cause of the comparative kindly feeling of the native planter, it would partly be found in his having been nursed and tended in infancy by some careful negro, and having made playmates of the little black fellows of his father's house. I acknowledge that the miserably degraded state of the factory slave, or the equally unnatural condition of the miners, is no apology for the

continuance of negro slavery ; and I only make the comparison to show how difficult it is, under the present irrational state of society, to render pleasant the condition of the "hewers of wood and drawers of water." I consider myself in some degree qualified to make this comparison, for I have witnessed negro slavery in mostly all the slave-holding states in America ; having lived for weeks on cotton plantations, observing closely the actual condition of the negroes ; and can assert, without fear of contradiction from any man who has any knowledge of the subject, that I have never witnessed one-fifth of the real suffering that I have seen in manufacturing establishments in Great Britain. In regard to their moral condition, let those who have had the temerity, who have dared to lay their hands on fellow-men, to claim them as property, let them answer for themselves in this matter to the Almighty, who still permiteth this extraordinary condition of society to exist.

Let none suppose that my object is to defend slavery : but, dearly as I love personal liberty, I

love justice and truth as well, which compel me to say that the condition of the negroes is not so anomalous as that of the labouring men of this country. They have no responsibility, no fear that their children may be left to want, no provision to make for age, no fear of being neglected in sickness, or of being compelled, in their old age to beg their bread from door to door. Whereas the labouring men of this boasted country have all the care and responsibility of freemen, and none of their valued privileges. They are used as animals of burden, and have not even the right of shifting the load from one shoulder to the other, without the consent of their task-masters. I do not make these comparisons between the negro and the worst-off class of manufacturing people for any invidious purpose, but only to enable me to convey a correct idea of their condition, by comparing them with a class that live amongst ourselves, and whose condition we know.

1. The first part of the document is a letter from the President of the United States to the Congress, dated January 3, 1862. It is a message of condolence to the people of the State of California, who have been afflicted by a severe drought and famine. The President expresses his sympathy for the suffering and his hope that the Congress will take prompt action to relieve the distress.

[Faint, illegible text visible through the paper]

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which are arranged in a columnar fashion. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are written in a more formal, printed style. The list includes names such as "John Smith", "Mary Jones", and "Robert Brown", along with their respective addresses.

CHAPTER X.

RELIGION.

Table, showing the number of churches, ministers, and members of churches in the United States—Comparison of the number of churches in British and American cities—Handsome and comfortable churches—Manners of the ministers—Their dress—Building churches—Fanaticism—Mormons, or Latter-Day Saints—General view of the state of religion.

ALTHOUGH there is no public provision made for the support of Christianity, there is no great want of churches or preachers. The following statements of the number of churches, ministers, and members of the different denominations, are from the *American Almanac* for 1842, and have been derived chiefly from official documents published by the different denominations; but the last column contains rather a vague estimate, made a few years since, and which has appeared in various publications, of the total number of people who are attached to, or show a preference for the several religious denominations.

Denominations.	Churches or Congre- gations.	Ministers.	Members or Communi- cants.	Population.
Baptists,	6,319	4,239	452,000	4,300,000
“ Freewill,	753	612	33,876	
“ Seventh Day,	42	46	4,503	
“ Six-Principle,	16	10	2,117	
Catholics,	512	545		800,000
Christians,	1,000	800	150,000	300,000
Congregationalists,	1,300	1,150	160,000	1,000,000
Dutch Reformed,	197	192	22,515	450,000
Episcopalians,	950	849		600,000
Friends,	500			100,000
German Reformed,	600	180	30,000	
Jews,				15,000
Lutherans,	750	267	62,266	540,000
Menonites,	200		30,000	
Methodists,		3,106	686,549	3,000,000
“ Protestant,		400	50,000	
Moravians or United Brethren,	24	33	5,745	
Mormonites,			12,000	12,000
New Jerusalem Church,	27	33		5,000
Presbyterians,	2,807	2,225	274,084	2,175,000
“ Cumberland,	500	450	50,000	
“ Associate,	183	87	16,000	
“ Reformed,	40	20	3,000	
“ Associate Reformed,	214	116	12,000	
Shakers,	15	45	6,000	6,000
Tunkers,	40	40	3,000	30,000
Unitarians,	200	174		180,000
Universalists,	653	317		600,000

In a work recently published, on national establishments of religion, by John Taylor, London, he adduces the following striking comparison of towns in Britain and America of similar im-

Population.
4,300,000
800,000
300,000
1,000,000
450,000
600,000
100,000
15,000
540,000
3,000,000
12,000
12,000
5,000
2,175,000
6,000
30,000
180,000
600,000

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importance and population. It will be observed that the population, both of American and English cities, is that of the year 1830; but this does not affect the comparison materially.

LIVERPOOL.

Population, . .	210,000
Clergymen, . . .	57
Churches, . . .	57

GLASGOW.

Population, . .	220,000
Clergymen, . .	76
Churches, . . .	74

NOTTINGHAM.

Population, . .	50,000
Clergymen, . .	23
Churches, . . .	23

NEW YORK.

Population, . .	220,000
Ministers, . . .	142
Churches, . . .	134

PHILADELPHIA.

Population, . .	200,000
Ministers, . . .	137
Churches, . . .	133

BOSTON.

Population, . .	60,000
Ministers, . . .	57
Churches, . . .	55

I have no doubt of the correctness of the above statement; for there is no want of churches in all the American cities and populous districts, except New Orleans. The churches are in general more elegant, roomy, and better ventilated than the parish churches of Scotland. The seats are commonly cushioned, the passes carpetted, and the people do not sit so crowded. There are generally a number of free seats set apart for strangers, and those who are not will-

ing or able to pay for them. I seldom missed an opportunity of going to church, and always found somebody ready to show me a seat. It is no uncommon thing to see hung up in the entrance hall or lobby of churches a plan of the seats, with the names of the owners attached. Those that are set apart for strangers and the poor are marked on the plan, so that a stranger has no difficulty in finding a seat without the help of the pew-opener, by which he will not disturb any body. I have never seen a sound-board over the pulpit. The pulpits are various in their form, and in far better keeping with good taste than the sentry-boxes that are posted up against the walls of the parish churches of Scotland. I have not seen in any meeting-house, desks before the seats. The people hold their books in their hands, and they are not necessary for any other purpose, for they do not sleep much in church. As speakers, the ministers, as far as I am able to judge, are superior to the generality of our Scottish clergymen; perfectly free from the drawling, tone and peculiarities of gesture and pronunciation that

sometimes insensibly creep on some of our revered and worthy clergymen.

Ministers are not at all formal in their discourses; neither do they dwell so much on the mysteries of religion, as on its practical application. Many of their discourses have more the appearance of an oration on morals than a regular sermon.

The conservative Catholics and Episcopalians stick to their forms and ceremonies, but ministers of all other denominations are perfectly free from any peculiarity of dress or manner: preaching in blue coats, green coats, surtouts, or henchers. Some old men wear white neckcloths, but this is not common. Most Presbyterians have organs in their churches, and very good singing.

Churches are frequently built on speculation by individuals and companies. Sometimes they let the pews, and sometimes they sell them; and in towns they pay well. Ministers, of course, are paid by the congregation; some have large incomes and some are very poor.

In the back countries, and in thinly-settled

districts, they are not well supplied with preaching ; and what they get is not of the very best quality. Many of these preachers are ignorant men, whose preaching on ignorant congregations sometimes produces scenes of fanaticism that are disgraceful to human nature — leading astray the weak-minded, and disgusting people of common sense.

One of the newest lights is a sect called Mormons, whose leader is Joseph Smith whom I saw in the city of Rochester, a chuckle-headed looking fellow, who asserted he had found a *new Bible*, hid in a rock, written in an unknown character on leaves of gold ; and that, by the gift of the Holy Spirit, he was enabled to read it. It is now published in one volume, about the size of the New Testament. From it they learn that our Saviour was in America, and underwent the same trials and sufferings he did in the Old World, somewhere up in “the west, where a ship cannot go, neither a galley with oars.” They believe that the Saviour will return in about sixty, or, I believe, fifty-eight, years from the present time, and assume the

temporal government of the world for 1000 years, in which there will be nothing but millennial peace and happiness. He is to make his advent in Illinois, where they are building a city called Navoo ; and they are at present raising a temple for his dwelling.

When I was in Cincinnati, I lived a fortnight with a family that believed in this doctrine, and likewise did some of the boarders. They call themselves " Latter-Day Saints," and do not disbelieve our Bible and New Testament ; but profess to be the only party who understand it aright. They can prophecy, heal the sick, by laying on of hands, raise the dead ; and they say churches that cannot perform or exhibit these signs of their authority and power are of the devil ; for it is said, " these are the signs by which they shall be known."

I had several arguments with a gentleman who lived with us a few days, and was an elder in this *only true church*. He was a *staid*, respectable looking man, and maintained his faith with great moderation. He mentioned several cases that had come under his own observation,

of persons who had been recovered from sickness by the laying on of hands, and by the prayers of the saints ; and, on the whole, he had probably the best of the argument. However, that was no great triumph.

Unitarianism is making great progress. All the preachers of this denomination that I have heard appear to me to be men of considerable power of mind.

I did not witness any of the large and continued camp meetings, about which so much has been said and written ; but, from what I could learn, I have little doubt but they sometimes exhibit human nature in a way that would astonish the natives of the year 2842, if it should ever reach their ears. It would fill a volume to give an account of all the different sects that have arisen—some calling themselves Saints, and some Sinners,—Quakers and Shaking Quakers. I think they might all be shaking.

Taking a general view of the state of religion in America, it appears to me that the active and energetic minds of that enterprising people are in hot pursuit after truth. It is true, they ap-

pear to be groping in the dark — extending their arms in all directions, like a blind man searching for a lamp-post — catching at, and carried away by some unsubstantial shadow, “finding no rest for the soles of their feet.”

What the end of the matter will be cannot be told. But, looking at the whole circumstances of the case, as a man of the world, it seems not improbable that, in process of time, by adding and subtracting, pulling down and building up, denying old established faith, and inventing new, they will fritter down the whole Christian faith, until they leave not a vestige of it in the public mind. But if Christianity, as we believe, be founded on immutable truth, it will triumph amidst all the mutations that may take place in that changing country, and exist when, perhaps, every other feature of the present state of society shall be known only as a matter of history.

CHAPTER XI.

STATISTICS, &c.

Government—Election of President—Congress—House of Representatives—Compensation of Members of Congress—Compensation of the Executive—Legislature of New Hampshire, of Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina—The Ballot—Careless exercise of political privileges—Opposition of trades-people to the penitentiary system—Education—Population of the principal cities—State debts—City debts—Naval power—Regular army—Militia—Revenue and expenditure—Number of slaves—Pork—Quantity of wheat grown, of barley, oats, rye, buck wheat, Indian corn, and potatoes—Exports—Quantity of public land sold—Rate of interest—Number of people employed in mining, agriculture, manufactures, &c.—Table of population.

MANY of those for whom I write may not have a very accurate idea of the nature of the Government of the United States. I do not know much about the constitution myself; but, in general, I may remark that it is a confederation of republics, bonded together for mutual protection; each state being possessed of all the privileges of an independent country, in everything, except the powers it has ceded to the General Government at Washington, by written

contract. This circumstance should be kept in view, in considering such things as negro slavery. The General Government has no more right to legislate on this subject for any of the individual states than to prescribe laws to a foreign country.

In the case of M'Leod, who was lately tried for murder in the state of New York, although he acted under the authority of a regularly recognised Government, the Government of the United States could not interfere constitutionally in the matter, because the power to punish for all crimes committed within the territories of New York belonged to that state, never having been ceded to the General Government. This may be a defect in their constitution ; and if not amended, may lead to serious consequences in their intercourse with foreign powers.

The President and Vice-President of the United States are elected, for the term of four years, by a certain number of electors, chosen by the people of the various states for that particular purpose.

The Congress consists of a Senate and House of Representatives ; and must assemble every

year, on the 1st of December, unless otherwise provided for by law.

The Senate is composed of two members from each state, and, of course, the number at present is fifty-two. They are chosen by the legislatures of the several states, for the term of six years—one-third of them being elected biennially. The Vice-President is the President of the Senate, in which body he has only a casting vote.

The House of Representatives is composed of members from the several states, elected by all the citizens, for the term of two years. The representatives are apportioned amongst the different states according to their population. While acting on the census of 1830, one representative was returned for every 47,700 persons, —five slaves, although having no vote, being computed equivalent to three free persons. The regular number at present is 242 representatives and three delegates.

The compensation of each member of the Senate and House of Representatives is eight dollars a-day, during the period of his attendance in Congress, without deduction in case of

sickness, and eight dollars for every twenty miles travelled by the usual road, going to and returning from the seat of Government. The compensation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives is sixteen dollars a-day.

The salary of the President is 25,000 dollars a-year; the Vice-President, 5000; the Secretary of State, Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary of War, Secretary of the Navy, and the Postmaster-General, 6000 dollars each; and the Attorney-General, 4000 dollars per annum; in all 64,000 dollars. These form the Cabinet of the United States.

The individual states forming this great republic have each their own government and constitution. They are not very dissimilar in this respect; and I shall only mention the principal features of a few.

State of New Hampshire.—The legislature is called the General Court, and is composed of two bodies, the Senate and House of Representatives. The senators are elected annually, by all the males of twenty-one years of age who pay taxes; the representatives in the same way. The executive power is vested in a Governor,

State of
New York.

Statistics

STATISTICS.

211

211

who is annually elected by the citizens of twenty-one years of age.

State of Ohio.—The legislative body consists of a Senate and House of Representatives, elected by all the males of twenty-one years of age, and who have resided in the state one year preceding the election. They are chosen biennially, and one-half vacate their seats every year. The supreme executive power is vested in a Governor, who is elected for the term of two years by the same constituency.

State of New York.—The executive is vested in a Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, elected by the people, for two years. They have a Senate and House of Assembly, elected annually by the citizens, of twenty-one years of age, who have been inhabitants of the state for one year, and of the county for which they offer their votes for six months preceding the election. Negroes, twenty-one years of age, possessed of an unincumbered freehold estate, worth 250 dollars, may vote in this state.

Pennsylvania.—The government of this state consists of a Governor, Senate, and House of Representatives. The representatives are elect-

ed, for one year, by all male citizens who are twenty-one years of age, who have resided in the state two years, and paid taxes. The senators are chosen for four years ; one-fourth are renewed annually. The Governor is elected for three years, and may, if re-elected, hold office nine years out of twelve.

South Carolina.—The legislative body consists of a Senate and House of Representatives. The senators are elected for four years ; but half the number vacate their seats every two years.

The representatives are chosen for two years, by every white citizen, twenty-one years of age, paying taxes. The executive power is vested in a Governor, who is elected, by the joint vote of the legislature, for two years.

The above is a fair sample of the leading features of the constitution of the different states. Every state sends two senators to the General Government at Washington. In this branch of the legislature, the small state of Rhode Island, with a population of only 138,830, has as much influence as the state of New York, which has a population of nearly two millions and a half ; but the number of representatives

sent to Congress from each state depends on the amount of population.

No foreigner can become possessed of the privileges of a citizen until he makes application to the authorities of the place, before whom he must make oath that he renounces all allegiance to any foreign power, particularly the country from which he came, and that, in general, he is favourable to a republican form of government. The ballot-box is used at all their state and general elections; but in reality they vote openly. There is, indeed, little cause for secrecy in exercising their franchise, for there is not, to any important extent, an aristocracy so short-sighted as to act as if they had a separate interest from the rest of the people. The principal evil, in a political point of view, seems to be a carelessness on the part of the labouring and poorer classes of society, in exercising their privileges. I have attended some political meetings of the working classes, and they have a very long catalogue of complaints against their political rulers. I may mention one cause of discontent that exists at present amongst the tradespeople, more especially as the present policy of

this country seems to be verging towards the same: I mean the state prison, or penitentiary system, where they employ mechanics and trades-people at their handicrafts. It looks all very well to have a large prison or penitentiary, capable of containing two or three hundred, or a thousand convicts, and a great part of the expense of the establishment defrayed by the labour of the convicts. But the American mechanics, who have had a fair trial of it, are decidedly opposed to it, because it interferes with their trades; for master-manufacturers of shoes, saddlery, clothiery, iron work, &c., who contract with the managers of the state prison, are enabled to undersell the regular trades-people. I saw a number of articles, produced by convict labour, exhibited at a public meeting in New York; and in the prices, compared with similar articles made by honest trades-people, the difference was so great that there appeared good cause of complaint.

It is not likely that our prison boards and county gentlemen will understand this; but, if, in the penitentiary at Perth, and others that are being established in different parts of the

country, they were to manufacture (if it were possible) potatoes and barley, partly at the public expense, and push these articles into the market at a cheaper rate than they could produce them, they would understand that.

I am not able to say much in regard to the state of education from my own knowledge. The common schools are supported partly at the public expense of the various states; and wherever these are most numerous, education, or rather the ability to read and write, is most general. The following table, from the returns of 1840, shows the number of whites in the United States, over twenty years of age, who cannot read or write:—

		Being 1 in			Being 1 in
Connecticut,	526	574	Mississippi,	8,360	21
Maine,	3,241	154	Indiana,	38,100	18
Vermont,	2,270	128	Illinois,	37,502	17
N. Hampshire,	927	107	Missouri,	19,457	17
Massachusetts,	4,448	104	Alabama,	22,593	15
Michigan,	2,173	97	Georgia,	30,717	13
Rhode Island,	1,600	66	Kentucky,	45,018	13
New Jersey,	6,385	55	Virginia,	58,732	12
New York,	44,452	55	S. Carolina,	20,615	12
Pennsylvania,	33,946	49	Arkansas,	6,567	12
Ohio,	35,394	42	Delaware,	4,832	12
Louisiana,	4,861	32	Tennessee,	58,831	11
Maryland,	11,695	27	N. Carolina,	56,609	9
	151,918		Total,	584,547	

The extraordinary increase of population in the various cities may be seen from the following table, extracted from the same valuable source of information from which the former table was derived.

	1800.	1810.	1820.	1830.	1840.
New York,	60,489	96,373	123,706	203,007	312,710
Philadelphia,	70,278	96,664	108,116	167,118	228,691
Baltimore,	26,614	46,555	62,738	80,625	102,213
New Orleans,		17,242	27,176	46,310	102,193
Boston,	24,927	32,250	43,298	61,392	93,383
Cincinnati,	750	2,540	9,644	24,831	46,338
Brooklyn,	3,298	4,402	7,175	12,402	36,233
Albany,	5,349	9,356	12,630	24,238	33,721
Charleston,	18,712	24,711	24,480	30,289	29,261
Washington,	3,210	8,208	13,247	18,827	23,364
Providence,	7,614	10,071	11,767	16,832	23,171
Louisville,		1,357	4,012	10,352	21,210
Pittsburg,	1,565	4,768	7,248	12,542	21,115
Lowell,				6,474	20,796
Rochester,			1,502	9,269	20,191
Richmond,	5,537	9,735	12,046	16,060	20,153
Troy,		3,885	5,264	11,401	19,334
Buffalo,		1,508	2,095	8,653	18,213
Newark,			6,507	10,953	17,290
St Louis,			4,598	5,852	16,469
Portland,	3,77	7,169	8,581	12,601	15,218
Salem,	9,454	12,613	12,731	13,886	15,082

Although the General Government has no national debt, the individual states, comprising the republic, have as much as is good for them, and some of them a little more. It is true,

most of the states have got into debt, by making improvements within their territories; but in many cases, this has been done so injudiciously, that they are now in the unenviable situation of bankrupt states. The total amount of the debt of all the states amounts to 226,469,099 dollars. The total debts of ten of the principal cities are, 22,372,540 dollars. This is municipal debt, not connected with the state debts.

The Americans rank as the fourth naval power in the world. In July, 1841, they had eleven ships of the line, mounting from seventy-four to eighty guns, including the "Pennsylvania," which I saw at New York, mounting one hundred and twenty guns; fifteen frigates of the first class, all forty-four guns, except the "Independence," which has fifty-four; two frigates of the second class, of thirty-six guns each; twenty-one sloops of war, mounting from sixteen to twenty-nine guns each; twelve brigs and schooners, of from four to ten guns; five small war steamers, and two large ones of the the first class, launched last winter, equal in size to any of our Atlantic steam-ships; one called the "Mississippi," the other "Missouri."

The regular army of the United States (as stated by Colonel Jones, Adjutant-General), in December 1840, including officers, horse, infantry, and artillery, amounted to 12,537.

According to the Army Register for 1841, the number of militia, or men in possession, and trained to the use of arms, was 1,503,952.

According to the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, in December 1840, the revenue of the General Government, including a surplus of the previous year, of upwards of two millions, was 28,234,512 dollars; the expenditure, 26,643,656.

In the year 1790, there were 597,897 slaves in the United States; in 1820, there were 1,538,064; in 1840, 2,487,113.

Since Sir Robert Peel's new tariff bill came into operation, the people of this country are beginning to look about them, to see where they can get cheap meat; I shall therefore mention the number of swine in the United States, according to the census of 1840. In the state of New York, there were 2,116,953; in Pennsylvania, 1,450,531; in Ohio, 2,103,209; Tennessee, 2,795,630. The sum total in all the

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STATISTICS.

219

states is about twenty-three millions of splendid porkers; and very good to eat, which I can bear witness to. The pork curers in Ohio, last winter, were giving, from one to two dollars per 100 lbs.; but this was considerably below the usual average. The average weight of swine, ready for the market, may be about 300 lbs.

According to the returns of the marshals, under the 13th section of the act for taking the sixth census, there were about seventy-three millions of bushels of wheat grown in the United States, in the year 1840; about three and a half million bushels of barley, nearly one-half of which was grown in the state of New York; one hundred and six million bushels of oats; sixteen million bushels of rye; seven million bushels of buck wheat; two hundred and ninety-six million bushels of Indian corn, and ninety-nine million bushels of potatoes.

The exports during the year ending 30th December, 1840, were—produce of fisheries, in round numbers, three million dollars; of the forest, five millions; agriculture, ninety-two millions; manufactures, one hundred and fourteen million dollars,

The quantity of public land sold in, and since, the year 1833, was, in round numbers—in the year 1833, three million of acres; 1834, four million acres; 1835, twelve million; 1836, twenty million; 1837, five million; 1838, three million; 1839, four million; 1840, up to the 30th September, one million six hundred thousand. The average price paid, about one and a fourth dollar per acre. It may be necessary to observe that government land is bought up by speculators, and not to any great extent by emigrants.

The legal rate of interest varies in the different states, from 6 to 8 per cent. ; in Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia, it is 8 per cent. ; in New York and South Carolina it is 7 ; and in most of the others it is 6 per cent. per annum.

According to the *American Almanac*, for 1842, in the whole of the states there are employed in mining, 15,203 people, nearly one-third of whom are in Pennsylvania ; in agriculture, 3,717,756 ; in commerce, 117,575 ; in manufactures and trades, 791,545 ; navigating the ocean and canals, 89,087 ; belonging to the learned professions, 65,236 persons.

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POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES,

ACCORDING TO THE FIVE ENUMERATIONS;

From the Official Revision.

States.	1800.	1810.	1820.	1830.	1840.
Maine,	151,719	228,705	298,335	399,955	501,793
N. Hamp.	183,762	214,360	244,161	369,328	284,574
Vermont,	154,465	217,713	235,764	280,652	291,948
Mass.	423,245	472,040	523,287	610,408	737,699
R. Island,	69,122	77,031	83,059	97,199	108,830
Conn.	251,002	262,042	275,202	297,665	309,978
N. York,	586,756	959,949	1,372,812	1,918,608	2,428,921
N. Jersey,	211,949	249,555	277,575	320,823	373,306
Penn.	602,365	810,091	1,049,458	1,348,233	1,724,033
Delaware,	64,273	72,674	72,749	76,748	78,085
Mary ^d ,	341,548	380,546	407,350	447,040	469,232
Virginia,	880,200	974,622	1,065,379	1,211,405	1,239,797
N. C.	478,103	555,500	638,829	737,987	753,419
S. C.	345,551	415,115	502,741	581,185	594,398
Georgia,	162,101	252,433	340,987	516,823	691,392
Alabama,		20,845	127,901	309,527	590,756
Mp.	8,850	40,352	75,448	136,621	375,651
La.		76,556	153,407	215,739	352,411
Arkansas,			14,273	30,388	97,574
Tenn.	105,602	261,727	422,813	681,904	829,210
Ken.	220,955	406,511	564,317	687,917	779,828
Ohio,	45,365	230,760	581,434	937,903	1,519,467
Michigan,		4,762	8,896	31,639	212,267
Indiana,	4,865	24,502	147,178	343,031	685,866
Illinois,		12,282	55,211	157,455	476,183
Missouri,		20,845	66,586	140,445	383,702
D. Colum.	14,093	24,023	33,039	39,834	43,712
Florida,				34,730	54,477
Wiscons.					30,945
Iowa,					43,112
Total,	5,305,925	7,239,814	9,638,131	12,866,920	17,062,566

CHAPTER XII.

CONCLUSION.

I REJOICE that I have now arrived at a conclusion ; but there are few pleasures without alloy, and in this instance I am not exempted ; for I cannot resist the conviction that I have failed in being able to convey that information I could have wished. I have laid before my readers a plain “unvarnished” statement, according to the best of my ability ; and hope that the imperfect manner in which I have expressed myself, will be considered in connection with the fact that this is the production of an unlettered man, one who makes no pretensions to literature. I am not ignorant of the willingness of the public to be *gulled*, and their readiness to pay for it, too. If I had held up the bright side of the picture alone, and brought prominently forward all the most successful cases of emigration, as

some writers have done, this work would have had a better chance of success ; but, although a poor man, I cannot descend to such quackery.

It is true that my judgment may have failed in arriving at just conclusions ; but I have stated facts correctly, and endeavoured to convey the impressions made on my own mind with scrupulous fidelity. Inconsistencies may appear in what I have written ; but let it be kept in view that I have been attempting to give some account of a country full of inconsistencies, a land where political liberty is blended with licentiousness, and personal liberty with domestic slavery.

The impression left on my mind in regard to the manners of the Americans' mode of living, and the progress made in the arts and sciences, as indicated by the splendour of their cities, means of internal communication, manufactures, and commerce, is highly favourable ; and if the great amount of political liberty enjoyed by them, has not produced a greater amount of individual happiness than that enjoyed under some other forms of government, they have at least the power of adopting all improvements in the

science of government that experience may suggest, without having to struggle, as we have to do in Britain, for ages, for every trifling amendment in our political and social institutions.

The Americans generally hate the aristocracy of this country for their power and policy ; and despise the people for submitting to be misgoverned by them. But in many respects the opinions of the masses in America, in regard to the social condition of the people of this country are very erroneous. They look upon us as serfs ; compelled to bow down to the dust when we meet a lordling, and to submit to Queen Victoria's will without a murmur ; never considering the beam that is in their own eye, in the shape of a President, who exercises a power that the Sovereign of this country would not dare to do.

The Americans look upon Britain as a country which they can fight successfully. When the excitement was at its height about M'Leod's trial, and rumours of war were rife, I used to put in a word in favour of peace, and hinted the risk they ran of having their commerce and their

cities on the sea-board destroyed ; but my mouth was always shut with this, " They had whipped England twice, and they were ready and willing to do it again." Many of the people are not only willing, but anxious. However, this feeling does not pervade all classes, and has no existence in the southern states to any extent ; and even in the northern and western states, most of the well-informed and educated classes, in speaking of England, express themselves with respect. On the 4th of July, last year, in the Broadway Tabernacle, New York, a church that contains 5000 people, I heard an orator deliver a splendid oration on the glorious achievement of American independence, and there was not one word uttered that could offend a British ear. In fact, I thought the speaker magnified the power and importance of England, in order to increase the effect of their own triumph.

I have not expressed any decided opinion on the propriety of emigration ; and I feel great hesitation in so doing. So much of contentment and happiness depends on acquired habits, temperament, and constitution of mind, that it is

scarcely possible for one man to judge for another in this respect. But, in general, I think the opinions entertained in this country of the advantages of emigration to America are over-rated. It is true that land can be bought at the prices stated, corn grown, hogs and poultry can be fattened; and people that are industrious and able to cultivate land need have no fear of want. But the great evil lies in this, that people do not know themselves; they do not know, until it is too late, how strong the ties are that bind them to their native land. After the novelty and excitement of commencing a new settlement are over, and things settle down into their ordinary routine of every-day life, they begin to feel the want of a sight of "old familiar faces," and even things inanimate. The very trees and dykesides, hills, valleys, and burnsides, about which they spent a happy childhood, are invested with charms unfelt at home, and rise up in their memories to haunt them like a dream, or a favourite tune.

"Oh! what would they not give to wander
Where their old companions dwell!"

The Irishwoman's feelings were true to nature, when she said "she would be perfectly happy if she could just see *Ould* Ireland once more before she died."

But let the young emigrate before their habits are fully formed, and they will like it; and what is more, they will succeed. Almost all Scotchmen I have met with in my travels were in situations of trust and respectability. It would be imprudent, in the midst of the present commercial confusion and distress, to go out upon chance. But this will soon pass away; and America, with all its faults and anomalies, will yet exercise a greater influence over the destinies of mankind than ever entered into the ardent and imaginative mind of Columbus, when he presented this new world to mankind.

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