

KEOWEE COURIER.

"—TO THINE OWN SELF BE TRUE, AND IT MUST FOLLOW, AS THE NIGHT THE DAY, THOU CANST NOT THEN BE FALSE TO ANY MAN."

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THE KEOWEE COURIER,

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WRITTEN FOR THE "KEOWEE COURIER."
A DREAM.

'Twas midnight, lone and ghastly time,
And many a vision fled,
Like shadows o'er the sleeping mind,
Mingling the living with the dead.

And light and darkness mingled there,
And mingled sight and sound,
As on the hollow midnight air
The strange forms danced around.

At length the shadows fled away,
And ceased the ghostly strife;
And then I saw an opening day
With childhood, laughing into life.

A boy was playing 'mong the flowers,
A fair haired sunny child was he,
As smiling as the smiling hours,
As pure as dying infancy.

O yes, he seemed so fresh—so bright,
So innocent and gay.
Each moment brought a new delight
To his boyhoods happy day.

A song seemed murmuring on the streams,
And whispered on the breeze,
While fairies danced on the shining beams
That streamed through green-leaved trees.

The earth, the earth seemed gay and green,
In his heart 'twas always May,
And the ceaseless songs of the birds, I ween,
Were gladder than to-day.

Then sometimes to the wild—wild woods
That hung round his childhoods home,
I saw him go on ventures bold,
In those early days to roam.

For even then into his heart
Strange feelings often stole,
And many a wild and restless thought
Would rise upon his soul.

Next youth, its dreams of love and song,
Its bursts of flowing soul
And bursting thoughts that rush along,
And never know control.

Its countless visions pure and light
That stretched to the far unknown,
Its thousand glories high and bright,
And love were all his own.

The blood took fire at every thought,
His leaping spirit none could tame,
For in his wild life there was naught
But love, and a dream of fame.

And then youth quickly fled away,
Like meteors thwart the sky,
And left him in his hearts decay,
Deserted, and alone to die.

Ask not the cause; enough to know
Love vanished like a summer's dream,
All joy departed, and in woe,
And night, hope quenched her golden beam.

Then like a lost ship, tempest tossed,
And driven over unknown seas,
Without a star to guide its course,
The plaything of each varying breeze.

He drifted out on life's dark sea,
Forlorn and compassless, till cart
On thy dread shores, Eternity,
I saw him wrecked, and lost at last.

ANGUS.

But it is not so in an agricultural people. I know it is a common opinion, that a much greater inequality of property exists in the South than in the North. But although I do not possess exact knowledge on this point, there is enough known to prove that this cannot be the case. The State of Virginia allows none to exercise the elective franchise but white freeholders, leaseholders of five years, and housekeepers who are heads of families. Now it appears by the returns of the Presidential election of 1844, that Virginia gave about 95,000 votes; allowing 10,000 for voters who did not attend the polls, and it appears that there are 105,000 free white males in that State who are either freeholders, leaseholders, housekeepers and heads of families, and by the census of 1840 there were only 157,989 white males in the State above the age of 21; so that two thirds of them are either freeholders, leaseholders or housekeepers. I do not know what proportion of the Northern States are freeholders, but I have seen a detailed statement from one of the interior counties of New York, from which it appears that only half of the voters were freeholders; and when we consider that the cities of New York and Boston contain nearly half the property of the States to which they respectively belong, and that in those cities pauperism prevails to a greater extent than any where else in the Union, it is very clear that great inequality of property prevails.

The State of Ohio, a new State and an agricultural one, and very prosperous, may be presumed to enjoy a tolerable equal distribution of property. There are in this State, by the last assessment, about fifty thousand pleasure carriages, and the possession of one of these, is an indication of a comfortable condition of a family.—In Virginia, there were in 1847, over 19,000; and that in a white population about one third as great as ours is now. This proves that the degree of comfort which such establishments indicates, is more diffused in Virginia than in Ohio. The proportion of dwellings built in a year, is another indication of comfort, and the degree of its diffusion among the people. According to the returns of the marshals in 1840, Massachusetts, whose white population is nearly the same with that of Virginia, built 324 brick houses in that year. Virginia built 402, or nearly one fourth more. Massachusetts built 1,249 wooden houses in the same year, Virginia, 2,604, or more than double. The cost of the houses in Massachusetts was \$2,767,134; in Virginia, only \$1,367,393, or about one half. Now if this excess in the cost of the houses of Massachusetts be attributable to the excess of business, or manufacturing structures among them, it swells the proportion of dwellings built in Virginia, and thus displays a still greater progress in comfort among the population of the latter. But if the excess of cost in Massachusetts is owing to the superior style of her dwellings, it proves, since the number is so much less, a still greater inequality of property. A comparison of the houses built in New York, the same year with those of Virginia, exhibits similar results. And I will add that the same thing is true, by a comparison between Virginia and Ohio, although one is considered the most declining, the other the most advancing State in the Union; one supposed to be the most unequal in the distribution of property; the other the reverse. In 1840 Ohio built 970 brick, and 2,764 wooden houses, at the cost of \$3,776,823. Thus, whilst we had twice the white population, we built only a fourth more of houses. Kentucky, also, as well as Virginia, surpassed Ohio in this respect. Kentucky built 445 brick, and 7,757 wooden houses; with only 40 per cent. of Ohio's white population, she built 75 per cent. of the number of houses Ohio did. The fact is that is that Virginia and Kentucky constructed in that year, more buildings in proportion to the whole population, black and white, than Ohio and Massachusetts. This result does not appear, indeed, in the cities, or in the principal streets of cities, and therefore has not come to the knowledge of fugitive and superficial observers, or newspaper item-mongers, but it is demonstrated by labors of the officers of government who were required to visit the country as well as the towns, the by-ways and the high-ways, and it is triumphant evidence of extraordinary aggregate prosperity and wide spread individual comfort of the States, which have been selected by the new school of politicians and political economists as the objects of their sympathies and victims of their theories. The same relative condition of comfort in the two respective sections of the Union is indicated in their food. Although Virginia is not an exporter of animal food, she is one of the greatest producers of it,

of all the States. In 1840, she possessed 1,992,155 hogs, which is almost identically the same number that Ohio had, although Ohio has twice the white population, and as is well known, is a large exporter of pork, whilst Virginia imports, in addition to her own stock, a large quantity. New York with three times the white population, was materially behind Virginia in this respect. Now it is well known that the great mass of provisions produced in any State, are designed for domestic consumption, as the cost of transporting them to the dwelling of an agricultural people is too great to admit of their importation. Hence, the products of such people afford a good criterion of the character of their food. The stock of neat cattle in New York was 1,911,244; in Virginia, it was 1,024,148, the proportion of Virginia being still the greatest. In sheep alone was New York better off, having 5,118,777, whilst Virginia had 1,293,772, which, however, is only about 150,000 less than her share. The proportion of poultry in Virginia is double that of New York. And in all these articles Virginia is still more the superior of Ohio than of New York.—So also is Kentucky. So that if it be said that New York is an importer of such provisions, and therefore consumes more than her production indicates, what is to be said of Ohio, which exports them all. Now in determining the relative comfort of two civilized communities in the same climate, the quantity of animal food they respectively consume, is a well established criterion. Yet, here is a State in the warmer climate consuming the greater proportion. For when it is considered that the hog is killed for food at the age of eighteen months or 2 years, and neat cattle at five or six years, it will appear that the excess of animal food in Virginia or Kentucky over New York or Ohio is quite large—is quite large, indeed, even if we include the slaves as well as the free population of the former States.

A reference to the quality of breadstuffs and other vegetable food, leads to the same conclusion. Virginia is the largest producer of wheat, the finest and costliest material of bread, of any other State, according to her population. Her crop of 1840, was 10,109,716 bushels; that of New York was only 12,286,418, of Ohio 16,571,661. All these are wheat exporting, as well as wheat consuming States, but still the great mass of the article must be consumed in the respective States of its production. In proportion to her white population, Virginia produces twenty-five per cent. of wheat more than Ohio, and two hundred per cent. more than New York! Not by importation, but by the substitution of potatoes, to which the misfortunes or improvidence of Ireland have driven her. New York, instead of producing her proportion of wheat with Virginia, which would be thirty-five millions of bushels, instead of twelve, produces annually thirty millions of bushels of potatoes, and it is remarkable that Virginia, with nearly a half million of slaves, instead of resorting to this cheap food for them, produces only about three millions of bushels of potatoes, and provides her negroes with corn, of which her annual crop is about thirty-four and a half millions of bushels, and which is a much more costly and substantial article of food. The tendency manifested by New York to prefer the cultivation of the cheapest, but the more precarious and less nourishing article of vegetable food is also distinctly visible in all the Northern States, and is a fact which always deserves to be considered in any estimate of their present and future comfort. In Massachusetts, agriculture is rapidly declining, particularly the production of the finer sorts of breadstuffs—a fact which is admitted and lamented by one of her leading papers—the Boston Atlas.—The following statements are from the official returns of the State:

	Bush. wheat.	Indian Corn	Barley.
1840.	210,000	2,203,000	156,000
1845.	48,000	1,985,000	121,931
Decrease	162,000	218,000	34,069
	Rye.	Buckwheat.	Potatoes.
1840.	583,000	102,900	4,850,000
1845.	447,000	32,000	4,767,000
Decrease	116,000	70,900	83,000

Of course it is not pretended that States of a commercial and manufacturing character chiefly, should produce as much from the soil, in proportion to population, as the agricultural. But the articles they do produce, and their proportions to each other, indicate the quality of food at least of the agricultural portion of the population.—Hence it appears that the farmers of Massachusetts consume but little wheat bread, and use rye, indian corn, and potatoes, as substitutes.

I think now that if anything can be shown by facts, I have demonstrated the

superior wealth of the people of the South over those of the North in proportion to their respective numbers; and this, by comparing the less prosperous of the South with the most flourishing of the North. And I think I have shown the South to be most fortunate in the distribution or equalization of wealth as well as in its acquisition. At all events, I have rescued the controversy between the two sections from the control of bold assertions and slipshod declamation, and confined it to the umpirage of argument and document.

There are some who sneer at statistics, and assert that anything can be proven by them. But such expressions I think are peculiar to those who deal in assertion chiefly, and find it unpleasant to be answered with facts. For statistics are nothing but collections of facts. I admit that facts themselves may be powerless or pernicious to a mind not logical nor philosophical enough to comprehend and classify them. But in relation to the affairs of this world at least, I ask, with the English philosophic poet,

"What can we reason but from what we know?" Facts constitute the great restraint on the impositions of interest, the dogmatism of fanatics and bigots, the fallacies of the vulgar, the prejudices of the sectional, and the dreams of the enthusiasts. Facts are the test of systems, the land marks of progress, the harvest of time, the elemental particles of truth.

But it is peculiarly important to resort to statistics on this question, because they are so much employed and perverted on the other side. From the speech of the Senator to the columns of the Editor we are continually assailed with statistical comparisons between the North and the South derogatory to the latter. In 1839 Daniel Webster presented in a speech to the Senate in praise of Massachusetts, an official statement of her annual products, which amounted to nearly \$100,000,000, which he characterized as the yearly fruit of her industry and capital. This certainly, would strike every mind as evidence of great productiveness and profit in a State of her population, since the annual product of Virginia is only about seventy millions. But on scrutinizing the Massachusetts statement, it is found that Webster included as the products of her industry, the raw material employed in her manufactures obtained from other States; the raw cotton, the wool, the raw hides, the dye stuffs, &c. &c.

It was but the other day that we had an extract from the report of the Commissioner of Patents, recently published in all the papers which undertook to give us an estimate of the wealth of the respective States. On examination, it is found to assume population as the basis of wealth. An average is made of the wealth of each man in a few States, and that multiplied by the number of men in each State. By this rule Indiana, which is more populous than Massachusetts, has more wealth—and the North of course greatly more than the South. The Commissioner of Patents is a Northern man, and travels deliberately out of the sphere of his duties to make up and send forth this absurd table; and in thus undertaking officially and officiously to enlighten the ignorance of the people, displays his own.

But while I contend that statistical evidence may be sufficient to convince, I am aware that it is not enough to satisfy the mind, particularly when at variance with prevalent opinions. It is a legitimate and laudable desire, even after knowing a thing is so to know why it is so. I acknowledge it is incumbent on whoever attempts to overthrow a popular error to show not only that it is such, but that it must be such, on the recognized principle of human judgment.

The reason, then, I conceive for the great pecuniary prosperity of the South, is that she is so generally agricultural.—About half the population of the old Northern States resides in towns or cities; in the southern about one-tenth.

Even Ohio, a new State with greater agricultural attractions naturally, than any other, has already a town and city population estimated at one-fourth of the whole; the single city of Cincinnati only fifty years of age, containing more people than ten of the largest towns of Virginia, the oldest State in the Union.

But why is agriculture more profitable than manufactures or commerce? One reason is, that agriculture is more productive or multiplying than them; that its products are the principal and the indispensable articles of human subsistence, and are obtained with less of human labor and skill than the others. A grain of wheat when sown will produce a hundred fold, but no fabric of the loom, no cargo of the ship, can have its value augmented in the same proportion without the cooperation of a much greater proportion of

labor and skill. Commerce and manufactures are chiefly artificial; agriculture is for the most part the work of nature. It is true that the facility with which articles are produced from the soil, influences their value in market, and that the prices of different kinds of labor tend to equality; and it is true also, that the prices of commodities are effected by the relations of supply and demand. Hence there is no such difference between the profits of the farmer and the artisan, or merchant, as the relative productiveness of their labors would indicate. But the interchange of commodities between the two classes, is by no means equal, nor is it obedient to those laws of trade. The farmer holds the subsistence, and consequently the property of his civilized fellow-men in his power; and this power he will exercise when circumstances permit, according to the sentiments which the possession of power inspires; according to the prejudices of his class, to the appetite of monopoly—and not according to the wages of labor, and the law of supply and demand. The monopoly of the necessities of life which agriculture confers, has produced some of the most striking social and political revolutions in history. It enabled Jacob to extort from Esau, who was a hunter, his birthright, for a mess of pottage. But Jacob himself, and family, preferred the lighter labors of shepherd life to tillage, and hence from scarcity of corn, became dependent on the granaries of Egypt, and fell into bondage. In wars between agricultural and commercial nations, the former have generally conquered. Athens was overcome by Sparta—Greece by Macedon—Carthage by Rome—events which indicate superior resources of the conquerors, more than their bravery. In England whose commerce has been enriched by the monopoly of the trade of colonies in every clime, and whose manufactures have been expanded by the most stupendous inventions of genius, agriculture still remains pre-eminent in wealth and political power, although it comprehends only about one-third of the population. The agriculture of the South produces a greater variety and abundance of staple articles of human comfort and subsistence than any other region. Besides such breadstuffs and provisions as the North affords, the South has by the superior genius and energy of her people acquired almost a monopoly of the cotton culture.—The South thus controls an extraordinary proportion of that food and clothing which the world consumes, and hence makes a corresponding progress in wealth.

[TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK.]

CINCINNATI, May 9.

Cholera.—Our city is in a state of great excitement in consequence of the re-appearance in our midst of that dreadful scourge the Cholera. In order to allay public apprehension, the Board of Health have issued a bulletin, from which it appears that during the last twenty-four hours there were 26 cases of cholera, 6 of which terminated fatally.

The Roman General Marius replied to the Gaul who sent him a challenge. "If you are tired of life, you can go and hang yourself."

Dr. Dotwood, in his "Hints to Young Mothers," recommends patience and care in teaching boy babies to feel their "footies." "He says that for the sake of seeing them tottle, they are put upon the floor too soon, which has a tendency to furnish them with an everlasting pair of parenthetical shanks. "It is not of so much consequence about the girls!"

Honest Confession.—When Lucy Cowper was once examined in a court of justice one of the counsellors asked her if she came there in the character of a modest woman? "No sir," replied she, "that which has been the ruin of me, has been the making of you; I mean impudence."

We find the following piece of impudence in a New York paper, viz:

Young ladies should never object to being kissed by editors, they should make every allowance for the freedom of the press.

We are silent with indignation.—Philadelphia Times.

A young lady who was rebuked by her mother for kissing her intended justified herself by quoting the passage, "Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them."

"Conscience!" said Mrs. Hopkins, indignantly, "do you suppose nobody has got any conscience but your self? My conscience is as good as yours—ay, and better too—for it has never been used in the course of my life—while yours must be nearly worn out!"

EXTRACT FROM A LECTURE ON THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH.

Delivered before the Young Men's Mercantile Library Association of Cincinnati, Ohio, January 10, 1849.

BY ELWOOD FISHER.

We must now consider the effect upon the various elements of civilization of a population once wealthy and rural like that of the South.

In communities which have acquired great wealth, it is almost universal that such wealth is very unequally distributed. Extreme poverty and extreme wealth characterize the population—but the mass are poor. This is perhaps inevitable where manufactures or commerce or conquest are the means of acquisition. And in England this is strikingly displayed.