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From the Alexandria Gazette.

### VIEWS

Of the Beneficent Society of Alexandria for ameliorating and improving the condition of the People of Colour.

### NO. III.

## OF THE CAUSES WHY SLAVE LABOUR IS DEARER THAN FREE LABOUR.

From the facts and testimonies adduced in our second number, we think it is evident that the labour of freemen is actually cheaper to the employer than the labour of slaves. This evidence we chose to draw principally from facts in the history of our country, which may come within the knowledge of every reader, rather than rely entirely upon the experience of other countries, as recorded by former writers, and which, in every instance, goes to prove the same position with an increasing weight of evidence. We shall, however, when we come to speak of the means of preparing slaves for manumission and colonization, state the result of some experiments that have been made in other countries for this purpose, and which also afford additional confirmation of the position advanced, by Doctor Adam Smith, in his able work on the wealth of nations.—“That the work done by freemen comes cheaper in the end than that performed by slaves.

As this position is so contrary to the usual habits of thinking among many persons in the southern and middle states, we will endeavour to show the principal causes why the labour of slaves is so expensive to the employer. Although it may seem, at first view, that the slave costs his master no more than his food and the coarse clothing he has allowed him, yet there are other items of expense often overlooked, that are, perhaps, greater than both of these. The most prominent among them is, the expense of rearing children, to replace the slave, when he shall be worn out by labour, or released by death. This expense can in no wise be avoided by the master: for if he purchases his slaves, instead of rearing them, he must pay the expense that has been incurred by another; and when he comes to estimate the interest on the stock so invested, and the value of its annual depreciation, he will find it amounts to more than half the hire of a free labourer. Suppose, for instance, that a young man shall cost \$400, the interest on this sum is \$24 per annum, which is a fair item of expense, because it could have been invested so as to bring this interest. But he cannot calculate upon the slave living more than 20 years after he attains to maturity—the average term of human life is not so long—he must therefore set apart \$20 per annum, for twenty years, in order to replace him when he shall die, or become too infirm to work; in the event of his living much beyond this period, he must also set apart some of his former earnings to maintain him in his old age; but this we will not take into the account, though it is a fair item of expense.—The clothing of a slave, to keep him in tolerable comfort, must cost we think, at least \$20 per annum; but we will say \$14 for a safe calculation; for if the stuff for clothing be made in the family, the spinners and weavers must be supported, and some of the materials must be bought. We will estimate taxes, medical attendance, and time lost by sickness, at \$5 per annum. We must also add to the expense of each slave, his proportion of the overseer's wages and maintenance, who is to be employed to watch them, and to supply, by a degrading punishment, that stimulus to exertion, which the freeman finds in the hope of reward. As one overseer can watch a good many slaves, we will estimate this expense at only \$10 per annum for each. There are many other expenses resulting from the employment of slaves, which we cannot estimate, such as desertion, pilfering, &c. but on recapitulating those enumerated, we shall find that they amount to \$74 per annum for each working man; and this may be called the wages paid to slaves, it being exclusive of their food. We are informed that the ordinary wages of freemen who are employed as field labourers in the upper counties of Virginia, are from \$30 to \$35 per annum, besides their board. It seems then, that a slave labourer costs as much as a free labourer, and if he does three times so much work, his employer loses by him about 15br \$20 per annum, or, in other words, the work done by him would cost the same

1836, if it had been performed by a freeman. But we shall generally find that slave-holders employ twice as many working hands as are employed by those who depend upon voluntary labour, on a farm of the same size; and that the farms of the latter are generally cultivated more judiciously. Even those farmers who do but little work themselves, can cultivate a farm of 300 or 400 acres, with the usual proportion of cleared land, by the labour of two freemen and an apprentice boy, while the slave-holder will have at least 4 or 5 men slaves, besides many women and children on a farm of the same size. In this case the slave only does half the work of the free man, although he costs as much annually.—Nor is it surprising that this should be the case.—“A person,” says Adam Smith, “who can acquire no property, can have no other interest but to eat as much, and to labour as little, as possible. Whatever work he does, beyond what is sufficient to purchase his own maintenance, can be squeezed out of him by violence only, and not by any interest of his own. In ancient Italy how much the cultivation of corn degenerated, how unprofitable it became to the master, when it came under the management of slaves, is remarked both by Pliny and Columella.”

It may, however, be objected to this reasoning, that it is not fair to estimate the price of the slave, and the amount of his depreciation by age, because most persons in this neighborhood have either obtained them by inheritance, or raised them, and that they merely hold them because the laws of the State oblige them to maintain them even if they were to set them free. To this we answer, that it is very little, if any, cheaper to raise slaves than to buy them; that most persons who hold them are every year sinking money by them, especially if they cultivate poor land, and that laws in favour of emancipation and colonization would be enacted if the people were only convinced of their true interest.

That it is nearly as dear to raise slaves as to buy them, we think may be inferred from the circumstance, that very few persons, and perhaps none, engage in the business of raising them as a profitable trade, and that most persons who do raise them, do so frequently driven by their pecuniary embarrassments, and contrary to their inclinations, to the painful and disgraceful act of selling them to the southern traders. It should also be remembered, that part of the wages of the free-labourer goes to the raising of children to supply his place in society, and that the wages he generally receives at the present time, in this part of the country, is barely sufficient to maintain him and his family, with all the economy he can make use of. Now the owner of slaves who keeps up his stock, must also maintain for this purpose, at least double the number of children that he has of grown hands of both sexes; for it is computed,” says Adam Smith, “that one half the children born die before the age of manhood.” It is also estimated by writers on this subject, that the woman who rears children cannot do more work than is sufficient to maintain herself,—so that every labouring male slave must be charged with the maintenance of four children: to keep up the stock, two of which the master may calculate on raising to supply the places of their parents. It is true that they generally have more than four children, but every one above this number will add in nearly the same proportion to the expenses of the family.

“The fund,” says the author just quoted, “destined for replacing, if I may say so, the wear and tear of the slave, (that is keeping up the stock) is commonly managed by a negligent master or careless overseer.—That destined for performing the same office with regard to the free-man, is managed by the free-man himself. The disorders which generally prevail in the economy of the household naturally introduce themselves into the management of the former. The strict frugality and parsimonious attention of the poor, naturally establish themselves in that of the latter. Under such different managements the same purpose must require very different degrees of expense to be fulfilled. According to the difference of all ages and nations, I believe that the proportion of free-men to slaves, that is, the number of

The estimates we have hitherto made relate solely to the expense of rearing and maintaining slaves, and to the unproductiveness of their labour, compared with that of free-men; but there are other causes of expenditure which operate generally upon slave-holders, and may perhaps be considered as necessarily attendant upon the system; one of these is the number of their domestic servants, which is generally much greater than would be employed if they were to hire free servants. We presume that the reason why they employ more domestic servants, is because slaves are generally slower in their movements than free people, which naturally results from their having no prospect of gain to incite them to activity.

Now there is no kind of servants so unproductive to the master as menial servants. They do no work that adds any thing to his fortune, and they live more expensively, and are better clad, than any other kind of slave-labourers;—therefore the greater number of these a man has, the greater must be his family expenses; and he will find it much cheaper in the end to employ free-servants than to hire slaves, or to own them himself, and raise young ones to keep up the stock.

Another great cause of expenditure may be traced to the nominal value which a slaveholder places upon his slaves. Although they may actually bring him no revenue, yet he places upon them a value equivalent to what they would bring in the market, and like most others he lives in a style proportionate to the nominal value of his property, and not proportional to the revenue it affords him, consequently his debts frequently increase upon him, until he is obliged to convert his slaves into money, contrary to the best feelings of his heart.

There are many other evils attendant on this deplorable system, particularly those of a political and moral nature, which we shall leave to be discussed in a future number. But we think those already presented, if attentively considered, are sufficient to convince every candid mind of the vast importance of taking early and decisive measures to avert them.

## THE ICE SHIP.

(Concluded.)

I shall not attempt to give the precise language which he hold towards the helmsman of the strange ship; but it was not the most civil, or such as is heard often in a Lady's drawing room. The amount of it was a “sailor's jaw” for not answering a hail, and for not taking the warp, and concluded by a request to know his latitude and longitude and how certain Capes bore from their ship—to all of which no reply was made, when I was called upon for a lantern, which I had taken from the boat, and had snugly stowed away under my jacket, keeping both light and heat to myself, a thing by no means difficult, as the moonlight rendered its absence unobserved. The second mate received it, and went aft to observe the countenance of the dumb gentleman of the helm—in this way he stumbled over one man, whom he thought either drunk or asleep, but finally held the lamp to the face of the steersman, which was a shapeless lump of ice; the helm was locked; his hand upon it, his feet fixed at some depth in the ice, and he himself frozen stiff in his upright position; near him were several of his crew in horizontal and various attitudes from whom life had long since fled. The horror of the scene struck a panic into the minds of our boat's crew, and they did not wait for orders to make the best of their way when they saw the officer turned round in a moment towards the boat. The officer turned round with countenance of a true sailor being told, wherein there was not a particle of alarm, and ordered them to follow him below. They who were so terrified, and who were so much afraid of his enormous fist, indeed, all obeyed the order, and we proceeded to the lower part of the cabin-way. In the

link, and paper, a thick fur around his neck, and as the light shone full on his countenance, there was the most fearful look from him cast upon us, that I ever witnessed. Years have since passed, but the remembrance is as though the event was but yesterday—it has visited me in my dreams. The appearance of his glaring eyes and distorted features were too much for our superstitious crew.

“Back rolled the tide,” I was thrown down in the turmoil, and no more notice was taken of my situation than of my frozen brethren on the deck; they ran over me like a flock of sheep. The second mate paused a moment, ascertained that the object of their fear had long ceased to exist, and took me by the collar and dragged me on deck, doubtless anxious to prevent his boat's crew from leaving him, sole object of the stranger in the extremity of their fright. He found them stowed away under the thwart of the boat, pitched me to like a dead mackerel, and ordered them to cast off and pull for our own ship; great alacrity was shown in this manoeuvre, and a few moments brought us back just as the moon was hiding herself behind a cloud, and every thing with the appearance of an approaching gale.—Sails were hauled with the utmost despatch, the decks cleared, and things in order as the gale struck us.

Egyptian dexterity succeeded, and we were driven at ten knots under bare poles. Ever and anon (as the sailors asserted) they could perceive the strange vessel carrying sail under the fury of the tempest, and keeping her position in our weather quarter, and could at intervals hear her roaring after us as she ploughed through the billows. Death for hours stared us in the face, and his features never have been forgotten by me.

At sundry times afterwards, during this voyage, when we were in water, sailing on beautiful moonlight evenings, we could dimly distinguish the ice ship steering in our wake, gliding in all the pride of a well-pomp, apparently pursuing the same course with us, though her sails were crumpled as if lying to. Such a phenomenon was always the prelude of a gale, and it became with us a habit to reef whenever her tall form showed beneath a moonlight sea.

In but one other voyage have I seen her, and then it was in the warm climate of the Indian Ocean, many years since; it was on the evening before we were wrecked. But successful exertion at last has secured me from situations wherein I might see her, and I now can at my own residence, sail over the perils, and wish all my brother sailors meet to meet in any latitude with a following of the ice ship. RICHARDSON.

## SEA SERPENT.

To the Editor of the Commonwealth Journal, Quebec, Reader, off South Islands of I.

Arrar, Galway Bay, Feb. 5, 1837.  
Sir—Having this favorable opportunity of transmitting to you the following account of an occurrence, which may be the means of settling to rest all doubts as to the existence of a marine monster, supposed to be the Sea Serpent, I readily do so, particularly as I have so many respectable witnesses to support me in the truth of what we saw. Being bound from Rhode Island for Newport, yesterday morning, the south Islands of the Cape Cod, were sighted, 30 miles east of our boat's crew, and they did not wait for orders to make the best of their way when they saw the officer turned round in a moment towards the boat. The officer turned round with countenance of a true sailor being told, wherein there was not a particle of alarm, and ordered them to follow him below. They who were so terrified, and who were so much afraid of his enormous fist, indeed, all obeyed the order, and we proceeded to the lower part of the cabin-way. In the

The creature was such a thing... it struck the hull, at the same time... Campbell is the man.

board, he spoke not while in the boat... Campbell is the man.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS

MESSRS. EDITORS OF FREEDOM'S JOURNAL.

I have noticed with some surprise an article in the Princeton N. J. Patriot... The author of it begs leave to inform the correspondent of the N. J. Patriot...

The correspondent of the N. J. Patriot says that the Journal will lose all its patrons among the friends of colonization... I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

THOMAS CLEARY, Master.

JOHN ADAMS, Mate. WM. NIGHTINGALE, E. and ROBERT CROKER, Passengers.

P.S.—Mr. Croker having occasion to proceed to Dublin, chooses that route for going to Liverpool, and will be the bearer of this statement.

THE TIGER AND ALLIGATOR.

An interesting anecdote, related by the Captain of a Daceport Guinea-man.

The bosom of the ocean was extremely tranquil, and the heat, which was intolerable, had made us so languid, that almost a general wish overcame us, on the approach of the evening, to bathe in the waters of Congo... Campbell, acquainted with his danger...

Death is an all-conquering power, sparing neither age nor sex, and regarding in no wise the distinctions of life.

It is unnecessary to enter into a detail of the proceedings of the colonization society at Washington... We feel that it is a terrible thing, to meet the destroyer Death, and we tremble and quake, no knowing how soon we also may be made to become dwellers of the dark and silent tomb.

A MAN OF COLOUR.

ROSCIUSKO SCHOOL.

The spirit of Education is the great... We have seen a man of colour, who has been educated in the United States...

tered into their labours. Ten thousand of the sons of Freedom in this state, soon to be added to our number, shall hail the harvest with us... Let us, therefore, enjoy the will and testament of the General Kosciusko!

Let us, therefore, enjoy the will and testament of the General Kosciusko! It is to be feared we shall be defrauded of the money, through a flaw in the instrument; but let not the WILL, which was in him, be wanting in us...

For the Freedom's Journal.

Death is an all-conquering power, sparing neither age nor sex, and regarding in no wise the distinctions of life. The lordly oak, and the under sapling, are alike made to bow beneath its yoke...

There was a quality she possessed in an eminent degree that imparted zest to all her actions, and that was her good nature.

in the trying scene, when the spirit is about to leave its habitation... Death, indeed, is the common lot of man, and we must all die, and our bodies become food for worms.

The body to its grave, The soul to Heaven's grace, And the rest—in God's own time.

FREEDOM'S JOURNAL.

NEW-YORK, JUNE 8.

COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

We introduce this subject with two objects in view, viz. that we may call the attention of our readers to the reply of "A Man of Colour" to some strictures in the New Jersey Patriot...

The free negroes residing at New York, (or rather, we fear, busy white men, have established a newspaper as a medium thro' which they can make known their views to the free color population generally throughout this country.

We hope our readers will pardon any warmth of feeling that may be apparent in this discharge of our duty, and will bear in mind our object to use the most pacific measures, studiously avoiding anything that might tend to irritate the feelings of any.

The Editor, in a badly written paragraph commences by doubting whether the editorial department of this Journal is conducted by the free negroes of New York, or by busy white men.

We must leave the author to his own subject of the Colonization Society, and we have made any apology for the subject to prejudice...

...to colonization in any shape, and to be... considered as a missionary establish...

The Editor of the G. C. D. Advertiser... seems to think we ought gladly to receive...

While we admit that there are many of... our friends, in the purity of whose motives...

What confidence can we have in mem-... bers who express so much concern for the...

The Editor of the G. C. and D. Advertiser... tells us, that here we never can have free...

The Editor further informs us, "that nat-... ure never intended a black and white popu-

There are many friends of colonization... whom we respect, and for no consideration...

At it respects the extermination of the... slave trade, it has been said, that the colony...

...the great and important work of a grand...

...the friends of colonization will not move another step in the business...

We hope that the friends of colonization... will not move another step in the business...

Domestic News

William Pettigon, alias Bill Parage, a white... man, of Nanticoke River, who was arrested on...

Henry Carr, a black man, said to be one of... Johnson's agents, is now in prison, waiting trial...

Dr. Pecco died at Savannah on 23d May. The... Georgian informs us, that Dr. Pecco, U. S. Agent...

A Printer in Extremities.—The Mercer "Wes-... tern Paper" says, "the Printer wants grain, pork...

Foreign News

Latest from England.—The packet ship... Canada, Capt. Rogers, arrived, having sailed...

The High appointments are not yet filled... Of the two Secretaries of the Treasury, Mr....

The great and important work of a grand... ship canal from London to Portsmouth...

Secretary of State for the Colonies... Viscount Palmerston... Mr. Robinson... Mr. W. Sturgeon Bourne... Rt. Hon. W. Huskisson... Rt. Hon. C. W. Wynne... Viscount Palmerston... Rt. Hon. G. Canning

Not in the Cabinet... His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence... Marquis of Anglesea... Duke of Devonshire... Duke of Leeds... Hon. W. Lamb

Master of the Rolls... Sir John Leach... Vice-Chancellor... Mr. Hart... Attorney-General... Mr. Scarlett... Solicitor-General... Sir N. Tindal

Com. Parry has sailed upon his projected... expedition to the North Pole. He is to touch at...

On Sunday last a young man belonging to... Paisley, of great bodily powers, undertook, for a...

Greece.—The Paris Etoile of the 24th April... furnishes the following interesting particulars:

Constantinople, March 26th.—The Porte... shows itself decidedly averse from accepting the...

Summary

A man of colour, calling himself John Pur-... den from Snow-hill, Md. has been arrested in...

A fish story.—Seven thousand shad, and near-... ly a hundred barrels of wives, were taken in...

Govt. of Maryland, has issued a proclama-... tion, offering a reward of two hundred dollars...

Two male camels from the Gulf of Suez, Africa, ar-... rived in this city on the 14th inst.

At a late military training in Flit-... ing, Pa. a man named Ewert, aged 37, was...

...Middlebury, Vt. ...

Mr. Charles Cronk, was lately indicated by... charcoal on board a vessel at Bristol, Conn.

A young lad, aged 6 years, was drowned in... the river, opposite Troy, on Saturday last.

On Sunday last, one thousand persons... visited the Albany Mineral Spring, before breakfast.

At a recent term of the S. C. Court, held... at Canandaigua, N. Y. by a female who had...

The City Super reports the death of 84 persons... during the week ending on Saturday, the 24th inst.

MARRIED

On the 6th inst. by the Rev. B. Paul, M... CHARLES CHATELAIN to Miss MARY BRODART

DIED

In Philadelphia on the 25th ult. Mrs. R... Hannah Chapman, aged 34

In this city, on the 25th inst. Mrs. Jennie... Brown, aged 40.

In this city, on the 25th inst. Mrs. Phoe... Cross, aged one hundred and six.

In Port-au-Prince, in the month of April... last, Miss Sarah Lafar, formerly of Charle-

In Viers Cruz, on the 25th inst. Mr. J... terminated, aged 40, of this city.

NOTICE

The subscribers living, should receive... encouragement, either by calling at the...

Terms, moderate, and made by the... Allocation of the office, No. 100, N. York...

WANTED... St. Phillip...

