they hold it, is as absurd as to suffer the judge to make the laws which he administers, or the steward to fix the terms of the engagement which invests him with the ma­nagement of an estate. Under such a system, the steward unavoidably becomes a peculator, the judge a tyrant, and the legislature a junto of conspirators against the public weal.

The agriculture of the United States varies according to the climate, soil, and situation, of the several divisions of the country; but, taken altogether, it differs materially from that of Britain, in the nature of the productions cul­tivated, in the condition of those who are engaged in it, and in the general principles by which it is conducted. Besides our staple productions, wheat, barley, oats, pease, beans, turnips, and potatoes, the soil of the United States yields rice. Indian corn, indigo, cotton, sugar, tobacco, the vine ; and Florida will probably add to these the olive and the banana, which scarcely succeed in the other states. The staple produce of New England is Indian corn ; that of the middle states wheat and tobacco ; that of the south­ern, cotton, rice, and, to a limited extent, sugar. Dr Morse indicates the proportional quantity of each species of produce raised, by naming them in the following order, the greatest being first. In New England. Indian corn, grass, ryc, oats, flax, wheat, buck-wheat, barley, and hemp ; in the middle states, wheat. Indian corn, tobacco, grass, oats, buck-wheat, flax, barley, potatoes, spelts, rye ; in the southern states, cotton, wheat, tobacco. Indian corn, rice, indigo (formerly), barley, and hemp. the western states, along the Ohio, correspond in their productions to the middle states on the Atlantic. Good soils, carefully cultivated, in the United States, yield 100 bushels of Indian corn or 50 of wheat per acre. But the average produce of the cultivated land in Ohio and Kentucky, districts not inferior in soil to any in the Union, is estimated as follows: Maize 40 bushels per acre, wheat 22, rye 26, oats 35, barley 30, tobacco 12 to 15 cwt., cotton 5 to 7 cwt. in the seed, or from 150 to 200 pounds cleaned. (James, vol. iii. p. 199.) This great staple of the United States consists of two sorts, the sea-island or long staple, and the upland or short staple. The former, of a superior quality, is grown along the sea-coast of South Carolina and Georgia. Cotton was first sown in the United States in 1787, and was exported in small packages, called packets, in 1790. In 1800 the produce amounted to 85,000,000 lbs., which has gradually increased to 480,000,000 in 1836, of which there were exported 386,000,000 lbs. The value of the crop was estimated to amount to 80,000,000 dollars, and that of the exports to 63,000,000 dollars. A great fall has since taken place in the price ; but even at this lower rate the value of the cotton exported in the year ending September 1838 was 61,536,811 dollars, and the quantity of cotton 595,952,297 lbs. Tobacco, an in­digenous American plant, has been the staple of Mary­land and Virginia from their first settlement; and it is also extensively cultivated in Kentucky, Ohio, Missouri, and other states. The quantity of tobacco exported in 1838 amounted to 100,593 hhds., in value 7,392,029 dollars ; besides 75,083 lbs. snuff, and 5,008,147 lbs. of manufac­tured tobacco, amounting in value to 577,420 dollars. An acre sown in rice yields from 1200 to 1500 pounds on what are called tide-lands, and from 600 to 1200 on inland plantations. Rice was first cultivated in South Carolina in 1694 ; and its culture has been so successful that, in addi­tion to the home consumption, it was exported in 1838 to the amount of 71,048 tierces, of the value of 1,721,819 dollars. In 1835 the quantity exported amounted to 110,851 tierces, of the value of 2,210,331 dollars. An acre planted in canes yields about 1000 or 1200 pounds of sugar, with an equal quantity of molasses. The necessity of renewing the canes annually by planting, in consequence of the winter’s frost, renders the cultivation less advan­tageous than in the West Indies. In 1817, however, it was calculated that 20,000,000 of pounds of sugar were made in Louisiana alone; a quantity estimated to be about two sevenths of the whole annual consumption of the United States. (Warden, ii. p. 483,541. Morse, i. p. 668.) The culture of sugar has since been greatly extended ; and in 1838 the quantity exported amounted to 408,802 pounds, and the value to 30,487 dollars;@@1 besides 2,610,649 pounds of refined sugar, value 219,671 dollars.

The rural population of the United States presents an extraordinary contrast in its constituent parts to that of every country in Europe. The class of extensive proprie­tors living on their rents, and the class of peasants living merely by their labour, are almost equally unknown. The great bulk of the inhabitants consists of farmers, who are the owners of the lands they occupy, and the greater propor­tion of whom work with their own hands. “ The number of those who are mere labourers,” says Dwight, “ is almost nothing, except in a few populous towns, and almost all these are collected from the shiftless, the idle, and the vi­cious. A great part of them are foreigners. Every young man hired to work upon a farm aims steadily to acquire a farm for himself, and hardly once fails of the acquisition.” (Dwight’s Travels, vol. iv. p. 335.) Except in some few spots near large towns, there is scarcely any land rented. The price is generally so low, that a small addition to the sum necessary for stocking a farm suffices to purchase it; and even where the value is higher, an individual who has money enough to stock a large farm will prefer buying one of half the size. Of the state of New York, only one fifth, and of the whole inhabited country east of the Mississippi (excluding Michigan and Florida), only about one tenth part is yet cleared and cultivated. Of course the best soils are first used, and, till population thickens and pro­duce rises, soils of the second and third quality will not re­pay the expense of culture ; and as a necessary consequence, those of the first quality yield no rent. The farms occu­pied by the owners are seldom large, because, where wages are high, agriculture cannot be advantageously conducted on an extensive scale ; and the large property in land oc­casionally acquired by an individual is soon broken up by division among his children. Thus situated, the rural po­pulation certainly enjoy a greater share of happiness in the United States than in any other country in the world. They are exempted from the fluctuations incident to the commercial and manufacturing classes ; they feel none of the evils of dependence, and are far above want; without possessing that wealth which engenders idleness and va­nity, and often becomes a snare to its possessor. They have the means of settling their families well, without mak­ing great sacrifices ; they live in the enjoyment of all the substantial comforts of life, and can look forward to old age with less anxiety and apprehension than any class of men in any other country.

The system of agriculture is necessarily less perfect in the United States than in Britain. Where prime soils can be had for almost nothing, where the price of labour is high, and that of produce low, the elaborate and costly modes of cultivation adopted in Britain cannot be advan­tageously applied. Some English farmers, who have gone out to America with an impression that large gains might be made by introducing our improved system of husbandry, have found themselves disappointed. Something the Ame­ricans may learn from us ; but, till the country is more densely peopled, it will be more profitable to cultivate a large surface rudely than a small one laboriously. In the middle and eastern states, however, where produce brings **a** considerable price, farming is carried on with care and

@@@1 Reports from the Secretary of the Treasury to Congress, with the Annual Statement of Commerce and Navigation, No. 5, p. 230, 331. See Report for 1835.