mote from market, is chiefly devoted to raising live stock. No more grain is raised than is sufficient to supply the county itself. The culture of tobacco was begun as early as 1616, and that plant soon formed the staple production of the colony. During the latter half of the last century, the annual export amounted to 60,000 or 70,000 hogs­heads ; of late years the amount produced in eastern Vir­ginia has fallen off considerably, on account of the exhaus­tion of much of the land suited to this crop ; but its culti­vation has been much extended beyond the Blue Ridge. The manufactures of Virginia are by no means inconsider­able in value and extent, but they are not in general of the class which involves the nicer and more complicated pro­cesses of art, consisting rather of those simpler operations, which convert the native growth of the forest, the products of the mineral kingdom, or the fruits of agricultural labour, into articles of home consumption or commerce. The fo­rests and the coal-beds furnish a cheap and easy supply of fuel, and the numerous water-falls offer an almost unlimited motive power for economical purposes ; and within the last few years several cotton mills have been erected for spin­ning and weaving, in which white operatives have sought employment. The exports of Virginia consist chiefly of agricultural products ; lumber, salt, castor oil, ginseng, coal, gold, some furs, &c. The value of the direct exports to foreign countries in 1836, was 6,192,040 dollars, but the in­ternal American trade must exceed that sum. The im­ports from foreign ports amounted in the same year to only 1,106,814 ; but Virginia receives her supplies of manufac­tured goods and foreign productions chiefly from northern ports. The fisheries of the Chesapeake and its tributaries are valuable. The shipping owned in the state amounts to 50,000 tons.”

The first white settlers in Virginia were English ; and the emigration from England continued to be pretty active during a great part of the seventeenth century, particularly from the time of the civil wars to the Restoration, in 1660, and toward the close of the century, both before and after the Revolution. Many victims of the political disturbances of those periods were also sent to Virginia as servants; and the captives at Worcester, the followers of Penruddoc, the Irish catholics, and the soldiers of the duke of Monmouth, were sold into servitude in the colony. In the following century, many German emigrants, chiefly from Maryland and Pennsylvania, occupied the valley in the rear of the Blue Ridge, which thence received the name of the Ger­man Valley; and in the more western part of the state, great numbers of Irish settlers fixed themselves ; and some felons were transported to Virginia, as to other colo­nies. Negroes and mulattose constitute a large proportion of the population of Virginia, and these are mostly field in slavery. The first negroes were brought into the harbours of the Chesapeake by a Dutch ship in 1620, when twenty were sold to the colonists ; but the importation was for a long time so inconsiderable, that at the end of fifty years their number was only 2000. The inhabitants indeed en­deavoured to discourage the traffic, and the Assembly made repeated attempts to prevent the further introduction of negroes, but failed in obtaining the requisite sanction of the crown ; and up to the time of the revolution-war, from 5000 to 6000 were annually brought into the province by the English slave-traders. It is one of the grievances re­cited in the constitution of 1776, and reaffirmed in the new instrument adopted in 1830, that George III. had prompted the rising in arms of “ those very negroes whom, by an inhuman use of his negative, he had refused us permission to exclude by law ;” and in 1778 the new state prohibited their importation under heavy penalties. The existing black population of Virginia is probably al­together native.

*Population ar different periods.*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Whites. | Slaves. | Free Blacks. | Total Blacks. | Total. |
| 1642 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20,000 |
| 1670 | 38,000 | 2,000 | ... | 2,000 | 40,000 |
| 1790 | 442,115 | 293,427 | 12,766 | 306,193 | 748,308 |
| 1800 | 514,280 | 345,796 | 20,124 | 365,920 | 880,200 |
| 1810 | 551,534 | 392,518 | 30,570 | 423,088 | 974,622 |
| 1820 | 603,074 | 425,153 | 37,139 | 462,292 | 1,065,366 |
| 1830 | 694,300 | 469,757 | 47,348 | 517,105 | 1,211,405 |

Besides the loss of population, occasioned by the removal of free labourers and of planters with their forces, the sale and exportation of slaves to other states have been a con­stant drain to this class of the population, especially during the last ten years. Virginia has the unenviable distinction of being a slave-breeding state, not only supporting sla­very within its own limits, but contributing to extend it in other states of the Union. This unnatural and disgusting trade must infallibly demoralize both the white and coloured population ; and as a proof of the suffering which it entails upon its wretched victims, no less a sum than 14,412 dol­lars is stated in the account of the public expenditure of the state for 1833 for *transported and executed slaves;* while the next item, the public guard, amounts only to 19,225 dollars.

A few families of Indians of the Nottoway tribe, a branch of the great Iroquois family, are still found on the river of that name, but they have lost the language of their fathers, and have become much mixed with negroes. Of the thirty Powhatan clans found here by the first colonists, not one is believed to survive.

Richmond, the capital of the state, and its principal city, is pleasantly situated on the left bank of the James, below the lower falls, standing on several eminences, which com­mand fine views of the surrounding country, and give to the city an air of singular beauty. Richmond was declared the capital of the state in 1779, and incorporated as a city in 1782, when however it was merely a small village. In 1800 the population was 5,737, and in 1830 it was 16,060, more than one half blacks ; at present, inclusive of Man­chester, which is united with it by a bridge, it exceeds 20,000. Richmond is 110 miles from the mouth of the river, which carries fourteen feet of water to Warwick, five miles below the city, and is navigable for boats 220 miles above the falls.

Such was the state of education in the colony, that one of the early governors thanked God that there were no free schools or printing in Virginia. In 1796, an act was passed for the establishment of primary schools; but in 1809 the governor complained that the law had in no in­stance been complied with. In that year a literary fund was created by the appropriation of fines, escheats, and for­feitures, to this object ; and the money received by the state from the federal government in 1816, for military services rendered during the late war, was afterwards ap­propriated to the same purpose. In 1833 the fund amount­ed to 1,551,837 dollars, and the income to 78,340 dollars. In 1817 a permanent appropriation was made of 45,000 dollars a-year from this revenue, to be distributed among the several counties and towns, in proportion to their free white population, for the instruction of poor children, and an additional sum was granted for the same object in 1836. In 1833, by returns from one hundred counties, there were 2833 common schools, attended by 17,081 poor children. In order to extend the benefits of this system to all classes of whites, the school-commissioners of any county are au­thorised to lay off the county into school-districts, and, whenever any district shall have raised three-fifths of the