

Marx's Gothic Data

Marx's Gothic Data

Sierra Eckert
Columbia University

x commodity A = y commodity B (139)

M-C-M and C-M-C (248)

Working Day I: A—B-C

Working Day II: A—B—C

Working Day III: A—B—C (342)

The social statistics of Germany and the rest of Continental Western Europe, are, in comparison with those of England, quite wretched. But they raise the veil just enough to let us catch a glimpse of the Medusa's head behind it. We should be appalled at our own circumstances, if, as in England, our governments and parliaments periodically appointed commissions of inquiry into economic conditions; if these commissions were armed with the same plenary powers to get at the truth; if it was possible to find for this purpose men as competent, as free from partisanship and respect of persons as are England's factory-inspectors, her medical reporters on public health, her commissioners of inquiry into the exploitation of women and children, into the conditions of housing and nourishment, and so on. Perseus wore a magic cap so that the monsters he hunted down might not see him. We draw the magic cap down over our own eyes and ears so as to deny that there are any monsters. (91)

20 Ellen Leinwand	=		20 yards of linen	} = 2 ounces of gold
1 Rock	=		1 coat	
10 Pfd. Thee	=		10 lb. of tea	
40 Pfd. Kaffee	=	2 Unzen Gold.	40 lb. of coffee	
1 Qrtr. Weizen	=		1 quarter of corn	
1/2 Tonne Eisen	=		1/2 ton of iron	
x Waare A	=		x commodity A	

Fig. 1: "Form D: The Money Form" *Das Kapital* (1872) 46, *Capital* 162

A) Einfache oder einzelne Werthform.

x Waare A = y Waare B oder : x Waare A ist y Waare B werth.

(20 Ellen Leinwand = 1 Rock oder : 20 Ellen Leinwand sind 1 Rock werth)

Form A *Das Kapital* (1872) and *Capital*

**z Waare A = u Waare B oder = v Waare C oder = w Waare
D oder = x Waare E oder = etc.**

**(20 Ellen Leinwand = 1 Rock oder = 10 Pfd. Thee oder = 40 Pfd. Kaffee oder
= 1 Quarter Weizen oder = 2 Unzen Gold oder = 1/2 Tonne Eisen oder = etc.)**

z Com. A = u Com. B or = v Com. C or = w Com. D or = Com. E or = &c.

(20 yards of linen = 1 coat or = 10 lbs tea or = 40 lbs. coffee or

= 1 quarter corn or = 2 ounces gold or = 1/2 ton iron or = &c.)

Form B *Das Kapital* (1872) and *Capital*

1 Rock	=		=		=	
10 Pfd. Thee	=		=		=	
40 Pfd. Kaffee	=		=		=	
1 Qrtr. Weizen	=		=		=	
2 Unzen Gold	=		=		=	
1/2 Tonne Eisen	=		=		=	
x Waare A	=		=		=	
u. s. w. Waare	=		=		=	

20 Ellen Leinwand.

1 coat
10 lb. of tea
40 lb. of coffee
1 quarter of corn
2 ounces of gold
1/2 ton of iron
x commodity A etc.

}

= 20 yards of linen

Form C: "The General Form of Value." *Das Kapital* (1872) 41, *Capital* 157

20 Ellen Leinwand	=		=		=	
1 Rock	=		=		=	
10 Pfd. Thee	=		=		=	
40 Pfd. Kaffee	=		=		=	
1 Qrtr. Weizen	=		=		=	
1/2 Tonne Eisen	=		=		=	
x Waare A	=		=		=	

2 Unzen Gold.

20 yards of linen
1 coat
10 lb. of tea
40 lb. of coffee
1 quarter of corn
1/2 ton of iron
x commodity A

}

= 2 ounces of gold

Form D: "The Money Form" *Das Kapital* (1872) 46, *Capital* 162

12 Häuser in Langtoft.

Häuser.	Schlafstufen.	Erwachsene.	Kinder.	Personenahl.	Häuser.	Schlafstufen.	Erwachsene.	Kinder.	Personenahl.
1	1	3	5	8	1	1	3	3	6
1	1	4	3	7	1	1	3	2	5
1	1	4	4	8	1	1	2	0	2
1	1	5	4	9	1	1	2	3	5
1	1	2	2	4	1	1	3	3	6
1	1	5	3	8	1	1	2	4	6

9) Kent.

Kennington, höchst traurig überfüllt 1859, als die Diphtherie erschien und der Surgeon des Kirchspiels eine amtliche Untersuchung über die Lage der ärmeren Volksklasse veranstaltete. Er fand, dass in dieser Ortschaft, wo viel Arbeit nöthig, verschiedene Cots zerstört und keine neuen erbaut worden waren. In einem Bezirk standen 4 Häuser, birdcages (Vogelkäfige) benamst; jedes hatte 4 Zimmer mit den folgenden Dimensionen in Fuss und Zoll:

Küche	9.5	×	8.11	×	6.6
Spülkammer	8.6	×	4.6	×	6.6
Schlafzimmer	8.5	×	5.10	×	6.3
Schlafzimmer	8.3	×	8.4	×	6.3

Twelve Houses in Langtoft

Houses	Bedrooms	Adults	Children	Number of persons
No. 1	1	3	5	8
No. 2	1	4	3	7
No. 3	1	4	4	8
No. 4	1	5	4	9
No. 5	1	2	2	4
No. 6	1	5	3	8
No. 7	1	3	3	6
No. 8	1	3	2	5
No. 9	1	2	0	2
No. 10	1	2	3	5
No. 11	1	3	3	6
No. 12	1	2	4	6

Kitchen: 9 ft 5 by 8 ft 11 by 6 ft 6.
 Scullery: 8 ft 6 by 4 ft 6 by 6 ft 6.
 Bedroom: 8 ft 5 by 5 ft 10 by 6 ft 3.
 Bedroom: 8 ft 3 by 8 ft 4 by 6 ft 3.

Housing data from Langstroff *Das Kapital* (1872) 46, *Capital* 162



Table E: Schedule D Income from Profits (over 60 £) in Ireland” DK 735, C 859

These slides were made using [reveal.js](#) by Hakim El Hattab.

References

- Cvetkovich, Ann. “Marx’s Capital and the Mystery of the Commodity.” *Mixed Feelings: Feminism, Mass Culture, and Victorian Sensationalism*. New Brunswick, N.J: Rutgers University Press, 1992. Print.
- Derrida, Jacques. *Specters of Marx: The State of the Debt, the Work of Mourning and the New International*. London: Routledge, 2012. Print.
- Drucker, Johanna. “Graphesis: Visual Knowledge Production and Representation.” *paj: The Journal of the Initiative for Digital Humanities, Media, and Culture* 2.1 (2010): 1–50. Print.
- Halberstam, Judith. *Skin Shows: Gothic Horror and the Technology of Monsters*. Duke University Press, 1995. Print.
- Harvey, David. *A Companion to Marx’s Capital*. London ; New York: Verso, 2010. Print.
- Jameson, Fredric. *Representing Capital: A Reading of Volume One*. London, England ; New York: Verso, 2014. Print.
- Malthus, Thomas Robert. *An Essay on the Principle of Population*. Ed. Philip Appleman. New York: W Norton & Co, 2003. Print.

Marx, Karl. *Capital: A Critique of Political Economy*. Trans. Ben Fowkes. Reprint edition. Vol. 1. London ; New York, N.Y: Penguin Classics, 1992. Print. 3 vols.

—. *Das kapital: Kritik der politischen oekonomic*. Volume 1. Hamburg: Verlag von OttoMeissnar, 1872. Print. 3 vols.

Poovey, Mary. *A History of the Modern Fact: Problems of Knowledge in the Sciences of Wealth and Society*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1998. Print.

Smith, Adam. *The Wealth of Nations*. Ed. Andrew Skinner. Harmondsworth, Middlesex; New York, N.Y.: Penguin Classics, 1982. Print.

Williams, Raymond. *Politics and Letters: Interviews with New Left Review*. London; New York: Verso, 1981. Print.