

of the youths, the inability of southern planters to govern their children themselves, and their unwillingness to delegate the necessary authority to the masters of universities or schools. "But they are growing wiser," he said, "and vigorous efforts are making to improve the discipline in the university of Charlottesville, in Virginia, which has hitherto been too lax.

We soon afterward passed a convent on the same bank, and I heard praise bestowed on the "Sisters of Charity," for their management of a hospital.

At St. Thomas's Point, about twenty-five miles above New Orleans, we passed a fine plantation, which formerly belonged to Mr. Preston, of South Carolina, a distinguished member of Congress, whose acquaintance I made in 1842. There are, I am told, nearly 1000 negroes here, and I am astonished at the large proportion of the colored race settled every where on the land bordering the river. The relative value of colored and white labor was here, as elsewhere, a favorite theme of conversation, when there happened to be passengers on board from the northern states. The task of three negroes, they say, in Louisiana, is to cut and bind up two cords of wood in a day, whereas, a single white man, in the State of New York, prepares three cords daily. In packing cotton, the negroes are expected to perform a third less work than a white laborer.

In the afternoon we were overtaken by a heavy thunder-shower, the water pouring off the eaves of our cabin roof, in copious streams, into the river, through numerous spouts or tin pipes. When the rain abated, I saw a fog slowly stealing over parts of the stream, for the water was much colder than the air. For some hours we were unable to proceed, and the captain informed me, that we should remain prisoners until the temperature of the Mississippi and that of the atmosphere were more nearly equalized. This, he hoped, would happen in one of two ways, either by a renewal of rain, which would warm the river, or by the wind veering round from south to west, which would cool the air. The latter change soon occurred, and we were instantly released.

I was congratulated by some northerners at having escaped the musquitoes. The captain said, "that they who are acclimat-