

of any active European observatory. From this hill we had a fine view of the winding valley of the Ohio, and the city on its banks, with nearly 100,000 inhabitants, the flat terraces of loam and gravel bordering the river, and the wharf with its fleet of steamers. On the opposite side of the Ohio is the town of Covington in Kentucky, the streets of which are made so to correspond with those of Cincinnati, that they appear as if they were parts of the same city, and a bridge over the river is in contemplation.

The height of the hills above the river is about 400 feet. The trees are still in great part leafless, but our eyes were refreshed with the green sward adorning the sloping banks, such as we had not seen during our winter tour in the southern states.

The German settlers have greatly extended the cultivation of the vine on the steep and terraced sides of these hills, and they make wine, preferred by themselves, at least, to beer, and to many German wines. Some lands near the river, recently rugged and sterile, but suited to the grape, have risen immensely in value, being now trenched and walled. This work has been done in the winter when there was no other employment. Some are of opinion, that the native American grape ought to have been cultivated and improved instead of importing foreign kinds. A rich citizen, who had spoken very contemptuously of the home-made article, was lately hoaxed by having some of it passed off upon him as Rhenish hock, which he declared was excellent, while some genuine hock of the Rhine, given him as home-made, was pronounced to be "sour cider."

The small number of colored people is striking to one coming direct from Louisville, and I was glad to hear that a stand had recently been made against the prejudices which prevent the improvement of the mixed race. A free school for girls having been established at the expense of the city, some of the parents complained that the trustees had admitted two children of color; and, in fact, there were among them two daughters of a white father and mulatto mother. One of the managers told me, that taking the complainants into the school, he asked them to point out which of the pupils they supposed to have African blood in