

Now these busy people, reclaiming land, building railroads, building factories, manning them with foreigners or home grown as they could, had as never before in this country the notion of wealth. And we must take the notion of wealth, the way it drives men, the way it affects not only their activities but their morals and their manners must be taken into consideration, in considering this period.

Property in the U.S. was estimated at this time as nearly \$44,000,000,000. Now that was an increase of something like \$ over ten years before. One of the peculiarities of this ownership which disturbed many people was the fact that there was already showing itself so large an amount of outside ownership. Residents of New York State owned ^{1300 millions} ~~2200,000~~ worth of property outside of their state; residents of Pennsylvania owned 450 millions. More than half of Nevada was owned outside the State. This was an interesting indication of what people that had accumulated money by manufacturing, by railroads, by speculation, by what not, were doing with it. They were going into new localities to invest.

(Blaine p.618)

This shifting of capital, of proprietorship was one of the influences largely under way which was to test the future and distress and mystify frequently those that in the long run profited by it. All our labor groups had grown enormously.

Take wheat. By 1880 we were producing nearly 5,000,000 bushels (Blaine, p.622), and the wheat like the manufacturing centre had gone West. It was Minnesota, Iowa, the plains beyond which

were becoming the wheat centre, and it was possible to handle it because the railroads had gone into this territory. Flour had begun to be made near the wheat centre (L. p 19), and Minnesota, it was already seen was going to become the wheat centre of the country, a thing which was due both to its inventors and its business men (p.520-521)

Such stories as this show how things were shifting. If you will follow them back to what they did, it shows how the building up of one centre, like Minneapolis in flour, might mean almost the destruction of a former flour centre. In 1870 Rochester, N.Y. had been one of the chief manufacturers of flour in the country. It was called the Flour City, but by 1880 it had changed its manufacturing interests. It lost its flour mills and had begun to build up the great nursery and horticultural institutes for which it is still famous; it was no longer the flour centre. It was to Rochester you went for seeds instead of flour, it became the Flower City. If we could watch in more detail the disturbances that the change of a great industry from one community to another caused to other industries, we would find that not all of the disturbed communities had the energy and wit to adapt themselves to the situation, to find a substitute for the industry that had been taken away from them. They lived to deplore the wickedness of progress, while a place like Rochester lived to bless the day when it had found a substitute.