

from removing the manufactures of the Penitentiary from immediate competition with their fabrics, is to employ an agent in some southern city to sell the Penitentiary goods. These goods are particularly suitable for the clothing of slaves, and therefore much sought for by southern planters. This experiment, however, would be of uncertain result in its effects upon our market. It might injure the domestic trade of Baltimore, without affording any relief to our hand-loom weavers, as the same customers would be supplied with Penitentiary manufactures, whether sold in Charleston and other southern cities, or in Baltimore." (Testimony, pp. 39 to 41.)

3d. Joseph Owens, who has been the Warden of the Penitentiary for 12 years, (see his answer to interrogatory 2,) says to the 45th question, "I do not believe the manufactures of the Penitentiary conflict with private manufactories of this city, because the goods made in this institution are much better and command a higher price."—Testimony page 48.

And in answer to the 54th interrogatory, he says that the Penitentiary goods as compared with the other hand-loom weaving, is "from 2 to 3 cents per yard better, and such is the demand for Penitentiary goods by merchants from the country, that they would be sought for in other markets if not to be found in this."—Ibid. p. 48.

And to the 59th interrogatory he says, "I believe the hand-loom weavers of this city can and would make their goods as well as those manufactured in the Penitentiary if they thought it to their advantage."—Ibid. page 48.

4th. Hugh W. Evans, who is a merchant and a manufacturer, to the 34th interrogatory, answers: "I can only say, that weaving is a trade more easily acquired than most others, and of course the convict's labor is soonest made available. I think the task of a competent weaver is 20 yards of plaid per day, and the usual price paid out of doors is about 3½ cents per yard, which would make the labor worth 75 cents. A power-loom weaver, always a small boy or a female, attends two looms, and in Penitentiary hours would weave of 3-4 cloth about 50 yards, the price of which is about 5-8 of a cent per yard, and would give daily wages 31½ cents; on the score of profit I leave the committee to draw their own inference, but if it be wrong to interfere with the labor of able-bodied men, I do not see the justice of interfering with that of helpless youth and still more helpless women."—Testimony, page 92.

4th. To the 39th interrogatory, "I believe the Penitentiary goods to be the best; the precise difference in value I am unacquainted with."—Ibid. p. 92.

To the 43d—"I do not perceive any benefit they are to derive from it; the market will take up a certain quantity of manufactured goods of the kind referred to, and if they are not made here they will come from other places, as likely from the Penitentiary of other States as not."—Ibid. p. 93.