

XIV. STATISTICS OF SLAVES.

NUMBER OF SLAVES IN UNITED STATES—IN ORIGINAL AND ADDED AREAS—SLAVEHOLDING FAMILIES—NUMBER OF WHITE PERSONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONNECTED WITH SLAVEHOLDING—RATIO OF SLAVES TO WHITES—VALUE OF SLAVES.

Slavery existed in all the states and territories which were enumerated in 1790, with the exception of Vermont, Massachusetts, and the district of Maine. Comparatively few slaves, however, were held in the Northern states; more than nine-tenths of all slaves at the First Census were reported from the Southern states. Virginia ranked first in number of slaves, reporting 292,627. The second in rank was South Carolina, closely followed by Maryland and North Carolina; but the total number of slaves in these 3 states only slightly exceeded the number in Virginia alone. The number of slaves in the United States in 1790 is shown by states in the following summary:

United States.....	697, 624
New Hampshire.....	157
Rhode Island.....	958
Connecticut.....	2, 648
New York.....	21, 193
New Jersey.....	11, 423
Pennsylvania.....	3, 707
Delaware.....	8, 887
Maryland.....	103, 036
Virginia.....	292, 627
North Carolina.....	100, 783
South Carolina.....	107, 094
Georgia.....	29, 264
Kentucky.....	12, 430
Southwest Territory.....	3, 417

The number of slaves at each census from 1790 to 1860, with the percentage of decennial increase, was as follows:

CENSUS YEAR.	Number of slaves.	Per cent of increase.
1790.....	697, 624	.....
1800.....	893, 602	28.1
1810.....	1, 191, 362	33.3
1820.....	1, 538, 022	29.1
1830.....	2, 009, 043	30.6
1840.....	2, 487, 355	23.8
1850.....	3, 204, 313	28.8
1860.....	3, 953, 760	23.4

The percentages of increase remained remarkably uniform from 1790 to 1830. Indeed, no violent fluctuations occurred during the entire slaveholding period.

The higher percentage shown for the decade 1800 to 1810 reflects the large importation of negroes during the years immediately preceding January 1, 1808, after which date the trade in slaves was prohibited. It has been noted that there was little difference between the rate of increase in the white and the negro population in the early part of the century; since nearly all the negroes were slaves, it of course follows that there was little difference prior to 1830 in the rate of increase in slaves as compared with that of whites. After that date, however, the rate of slave increase tended to diminish.

States holding slaves: 1790.



Marked changes appear from decade to decade in the rate of increase for slaves in the different states, although for the entire United States, as already pointed out, it remained reasonably uniform.

The extension of slavery from 1790 to 1860 by annexation of territory, and especially by settlement and the transfer of slaves from the older to the newly settled areas in the South and Southwest, is clearly indicated in the following table.

In the 3 slave states of Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia, at the period under consideration slaves were employed principally in the cultivation of tobacco. The soil was rapidly impoverished by this crop, however, and as a result the center of tobacco culture tended to move farther westward, into new and more favorable sections in Kentucky and Tennessee.

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TABLE 60.—NUMBER OF SLAVES IN THE AREA ENUMERATED IN 1790 AND IN THE ADDED AREA, BY STATES AND TERRITORIES: 1790 TO 1860.

STATE OR TERRITORY.	1790	1800	1810	1820	1830	1840	1850	1860
United States.....	697,624	893,602	1,191,362	1,538,022	2,009,043	2,457,355	3,204,313	3,953,760
Enumerated in 1790.....	697,624	889,804	1,122,110	1,341,718	1,577,105	1,609,105	1,842,570	1,975,802
New England.....	3,703	1,339	418	145	48	23		
Maine.....					2			
New Hampshire.....	157	8			3	1		
Vermont.....								
Massachusetts.....					1			
Rhode Island.....	958	350	108	48	17	5		
Connecticut.....	2,648	951	310	97	25	117		
Middle states.....	45,210	41,184	30,840	22,365	6,024	3,347	2,526	1,816
New York.....	21,193	20,903	15,017	10,088	75	4		
New Jersey.....	11,423	12,422	10,851	7,557	2,254	674	236	18
Pennsylvania.....	3,707	1,706	795	211	403	64		
Delaware.....	8,887	6,153	4,177	4,509	3,292	2,605	2,290	1,798
Southern states.....	648,651	847,281	1,090,852	1,319,208	1,571,033	1,605,735	1,840,044	1,973,958
Maryland and District of Columbia.....	103,036	¹ 107,707	² 115,056	³ 111,917	⁴ 107,499	⁵ 93,057	94,055	90,374
Virginia.....	287,959	⁶ 339,796	⁷ 333,521	⁸ 411,886	⁹ 453,698	¹⁰ 431,873	452,028	472,494
West Virginia.....	4,668	7,172	10,836	15,119	17,673	18,488	20,500	18,371
North Carolina.....	100,783	133,296	163,824	204,917	245,601	245,817	288,548	331,059
South Carolina.....	107,094	146,151	196,305	258,475	315,401	327,038	334,984	402,406
Georgia (eastern part).....	29,264	59,232	91,154	110,055	124,345	124,145	149,489	158,050
Kentucky.....	12,430	40,343	80,561	126,732	165,213	182,258	210,981	225,483
Tennessee.....	3,417	13,584	44,535	80,107	141,603	183,039	239,459	275,719
Added area.....		3,798	69,252	190,304	431,938	878,250	1,361,743	1,977,958
First enumerated in 1800.....		3,798	31,551	115,401	277,182	605,890	884,915	1,175,829
Northern states.....		135	429	1,107	788	348		
Ohio.....					6	3		
Indiana.....		28	237	190	3	3		
Illinois.....		¹¹ 107	168	917	747	331		
Michigan.....			24		1			
Wisconsin.....					¹² 31	11		
Southern states.....		3,663	31,152	114,294	276,394	605,542	884,915	1,175,829
Georgia (western part).....		174	14,064	39,601	93,186	156,799	232,193	304,118
Alabama.....		7,494	¹³ 2,565	41,879	117,549	253,532	342,844	455,050
Mississippi.....		2,995	14,523	32,814	65,659	195,211	309,878	436,631
First enumerated in 1810.....			37,671	80,903	139,355	246,627	379,331	557,772
Louisiana ¹⁴			34,660	69,064	109,588	168,452	244,809	331,726
Arkansas.....			¹⁵ 136	1,617	4,576	19,935	47,100	111,115
Missouri.....			¹⁶ 2,875	10,222	25,091	58,240	87,422	114,931
First enumerated in 1830.....					15,501	25,717	39,310	61,745
Florida.....					15,501	25,717	39,310	61,745
First enumerated in 1840.....						16		
Iowa.....						16		
First enumerated in 1850.....							58,187	182,595
Utah territory.....							26	29
Texas.....							58,161	182,566
First enumerated in 1860.....								17
Nebraska.....								15
Kansas.....								2

1 Exclusive of 37 slaves captured in the slaver *Amistad*.
 2 Colored apprentices for life, by the act to abolish slavery passed April 18, 1846.
 3 Alexandria county, which from 1800 to 1840, inclusive, formed a part of the District of Columbia, is here included with Virginia, for comparative purposes.
 4 The totals for the counties which in 1863 and 1866 were set off from Virginia to form West Virginia are here shown separately, because of the marked difference between the 2 states with respect to slavery.
 5 Reported as for Randolph county, Indiana territory.
 6 Reported as for Brown, Crawford, and Iowa counties, Michigan territory.
 7 Reported as for Washington county, Mississippi territory.
 8 Reported as for Baldwin, Madison, and Washington counties, Mississippi territory.
 9 In 1810 Louisiana was called "Orleans territory," and the name "Louisiana territory" was applied to the remainder of the Louisiana Purchase, which was unorganized.
 10 Reported as for "settlements of Hope Field and St. Francis" and for "settlements on the Arkansas" in the unorganized territory then called "Louisiana territory."
 Compare with note 9.
 11 Reported as for Cape Girardeau, New Madrid, St. Charles, St. Louis, and St. Genevieve districts in the unorganized territory then called "Louisiana territory."
 Compare with note 9.

As the cultivation of tobacco by slave labor became somewhat less profitable in the older states, the acquisition of territory in the far South and Southwest and the introduction and rapid expansion of cotton growing in that section made slave labor highly profitable in connection with this important crop. After

the further importation of slaves was prohibited in 1808, the market price of negroes advanced rapidly, because of the increasing demand for their services in the cotton fields. Planters in Maryland and Virginia found it to their pecuniary advantage either to sell slaves or to move with them farther south or into

Kentucky or Tennessee. These changes resulted in a shifting of the slave population in the Southern states.

In Delaware the number of slaves was greatest at the First Census, but declined steadily (except during the decade 1810 to 1820) until 1860. In Maryland the number decreased at each census but one from 1810 to 1860. The number in Virginia increased but 4 per cent from 1830 to 1860; in North Carolina, during the same period, the increase was 35 per cent, or about 1 per cent per annum. For that part of Georgia enumerated in 1790 the increase was 27.1 per cent, but the whole state showed an increase of more than 100 per cent.

As reflected by percentage of increase from decade to decade, the area showing liberal increase of slave population tended to become more restricted. In 1850 and 1860 decided increase in number of slaves was practically confined to the lower South. In 1860 only Georgia, the Gulf states, Missouri, and Arkansas showed an increase exceeding 20 per cent in the number of slaves.

In forty years, from 1820 to 1860, both Alabama and Mississippi recorded a tenfold increase in slave population, while the white population increased but sixfold in Alabama and eightfold in Mississippi. The number of slaves in Louisiana increased with similar rapidity; and in the decade from 1850 to 1860 the slave population of Texas trebled.

In the following table, which presents the percentages of increase in slaves in all the so-called slave states during the period of slavery, the shifting of slave property to the lower South and Southwest is clearly indicated:

TABLE 61.—Per cent increase of the slave population of the slave states at each census: 1790 to 1860.

STATE OR TERRITORY.	1790 to 1800	1800 to 1810	1810 to 1820	1820 to 1830	1830 to 1840	1840 to 1850	1850 to 1860
Delaware.....	130.8	132.1	7.9	127.0	120.9	112.1	121.5
Maryland ²	4.5	6.8	12.7	13.9	113.4	1.1	13.9
Virginia.....	18.6	13.7	8.3	10.4	14.5	4.9	3.9
North Carolina.....	32.3	26.7	21.4	19.9	0.1	17.4	14.7
South Carolina.....	36.5	34.4	31.6	22.0	3.7	17.7	4.5
Georgia ³	103.0	77.1	42.2	45.4	29.2	35.9	21.1
Florida.....					65.9	52.9	57.1
Kentucky.....	224.6	99.7	57.3	30.4	10.3	15.8	6.9
Tennessee.....	297.5	227.8	79.9	76.8	29.3	30.8	15.1
Alabama ⁴		419.2	1,532.7	180.7	115.7	35.2	26.9
Mississippi.....		384.9	125.9	100.1	197.3	58.7	40.9
Louisiana ⁵			99.3	58.7	53.7	45.3	35.5
Arkansas ⁶			1,069.0	183.0	335.6	136.3	135.9
Texas.....							213.9
Missouri ⁷			255.5	145.5	132.1	50.1	31.5

¹ Decrease.

² Includes District of Columbia.

³ Entire state.

⁴ Reported as for Washington county, Mississippi territory, in 1800, and as for Baldwin, Madison, and Washington counties, Mississippi territory, in 1810.

⁵ Called "Orleans territory" in 1810. See Table 60, note 9.

⁶ Reported in 1810 as for "settlements of Hope Field and St. Francis" and for "settlements on the Arkansas" in the unorganized territory then called "Louisiana territory."

⁷ Reported in 1810 as for Cape Girardeau, New Madrid, St. Charles, St. Louis, and St. Genevieve districts, in the unorganized territory then called "Louisiana territory."

Comparison of the increase in the number of slaves in the original and added area and the proportion con-

tributed by each, reflects the progress of settlement of the younger slave states, and their constant increase in proportionate importance as slaveholders.

TABLE 62.—Per cent increase and proportion of slaves reported in area enumerated in 1790 and in added area: 1790 to 1860.

YEAR.	ORIGINAL AREA.		ADDED AREA.	
	Per cent of in-crease.	Proportion of total slaves.	Per cent of in-crease.	Proportion of total slaves.
1790.....		100.0		
1800.....	27.5	99.6		0.4
1810.....	26.1	94.2	1,723.4	5.8
1820.....	19.6	87.2	183.5	12.8
1830.....	17.5	78.5	120.0	21.5
1840.....	2.0	64.7	103.3	35.3
1850.....	14.5	57.5	55.1	42.5
1860.....	7.2	50.0	45.3	50.0

The decennial rate of increase in the number of slaves in the original area was noticeably uniform for forty years after the First Census, but from 1830 to 1840 the increase declined to 2 per cent, a rate so small as to be practically negligible. In 1850 a considerable increase was reported, but in 1860 there was again an insignificant percentage. In general, therefore, the uniform increase of one-fourth or one-sixth shown in the original area to 1830 declined during the final thirty years of slavery to a small and wavering increment. Meantime the relative rank of the two areas in slaveholding was steadily changing and the Southern states in the added area were becoming more and more important as slaveholding communities. The proportion of 99.6 per cent of all slaves shown by the original area in 1800 had dropped to one-half by 1860. Such changing proportions manifest a much greater relative increase in the number of slaves in the added area than in the original area. The large earlier percentages were of course devoid of significance as indicative of natural increase, since they were principally the result of acquisition of new slave territory and the rapid settlement therein of a considerable slaveholding population. The rate of increase, however, although it declined sharply after 1830, continued very high in the added area to the close of the slaveholding period. The changes here shown in the total added area suggest analysis of the increase in the number of slaves in the area added at each census after 1790. The percentages in the following summary, like those which precede, are computed from Table 60:

DECADE.	DECENNIAL PER CENT OF INCREASE IN NUMBER OF SLAVES IN AREA FIRST ENUMERATED IN—						
	1800	1810	1820	1830	1840	1850	1860
1790 to 1800.....							
1800 to 1810.....	731.5						
1810 to 1820.....	265.4	114.8					
1820 to 1830.....	140.2	72.1					
1830 to 1840.....	118.6	77.1		65.9			
1840 to 1850.....	46.1	53.8		52.9			
1850 to 1860.....	32.9	47.0		57.1		213.8	

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SLAVEHOLDING FAMILIES.

In a preceding chapter which treats of families (see page 96), a presentation is made of slaveholding families in 1790, white and colored, in which the number

of members and the average size of such families are given. The following table presents the number of slaveholding families, the total number of slaves, and the average number per family, by states and territories in 1790 and 1850:

TABLE 63.—NUMBER OF SLAVEHOLDING FAMILIES AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF SLAVES PER FAMILY, BY STATES AND TERRITORIES: 1790 AND 1850.

STATE OR TERRITORY.	1790					1850				
	Slaveholding families.		Slaves.			Slaveholding families. ¹		Slaves.		
	Number.	Per cent of all families.	Number.			Number.	Per cent of all families.	Number.		
			Total.	Average per slaveholding family.	Per cent of total population.			Total.	Average per slaveholding family.	Per cent of total population.
United States.....	96,168	17.2	697,624	7.3	17.8	347,725	9.7	3,204,313	9.2	13.8
Area enumerated in 1790.....	96,168	17.2	697,624	7.3	17.8	214,799	9.3	1,842,570	8.6	12.6
New England.....	2,147	2.8	3,763	1.8	0.4					
Maine.....										
New Hampshire.....	123	0.5	157	1.3	0.1					
Vermont.....										
Massachusetts.....										
Rhode Island.....	461	4.1	958	2.1	1.4					
Connecticut.....	1,563	3.8	2,648	1.7	1.1					
Middle States.....	16,265	0.8	45,210	2.8	4.4	1,009	0.1	2,526	2.5	(?)
New York.....	7,796	14.2	21,193	2.7	6.2					
New Jersey.....	\$ 4,760	16.0	11,423	2.4	6.2	200	0.2	236	1.2	(?)
Pennsylvania.....	1,858	2.5	3,707	2.0	0.9					
Delaware.....	\$ 1,851	22.5	8,887	4.8	15.0	809	5.2	2,290	2.8	2.5
Southern States.....	77,756	35.8	648,651	8.3	34.1	213,790	30.3	1,840,044	8.6	31.4
Maryland and District of Columbia.....	\$ 13,777	38.0	103,036	7.5	32.2	17,517	18.3	94,055	5.4	14.8
Virginia and West Virginia.....	\$ 34,026	44.9	292,627	8.5	39.1	55,063	32.9	472,528	8.6	33.2
North Carolina.....	\$ 16,310	31.0	100,783	6.7	25.5	28,303	26.8	288,548	10.2	33.2
South Carolina.....	8,850	34.2	107,094	12.1	43.0	25,596	48.4	384,984	15.0	57.6
Georgia.....	\$ 2,419	24.5	29,264	12.1	35.5	\$ 15,062	70.3	\$ 149,489	9.9	54.9
Kentucky.....	\$ 1,855	17.0	12,430	6.7	16.9	38,385	28.9	210,981	5.5	21.5
Tennessee ⁷	\$ 510	8.8	3,417	6.7	9.6	33,864	26.0	239,469	7.1	23.9
Added area.....						132,926	10.3	1,361,743	10.2	15.8

¹ Given in the Compendium of the Seventh Census, Table xc, as "slaveholders."

² Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

³ Estimated. See page 138.

⁴ Allegany, Calvert, and Somerset counties estimated.

⁵ Caswell, Granville, and Orange counties estimated.

⁶ Figures are for part enumerated in 1790.

⁷ The figures shown as for Tennessee in 1790 were reported as for the Southwest Territory, which had an area slightly greater than that of Tennessee.

In 1790 the proportion which slaveholding families formed of all families exceeded 20 per cent in Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, but was less than 20 per cent in Kentucky and much less in Tennessee. Even in New York the proportion was but little smaller than in Kentucky. In 1850 the number of slaveholding families had become less than 20 per cent of all families in Delaware and Maryland, whereas the proportion exceeded that figure in Kentucky and Tennessee. In only 2 states, North Carolina and South Carolina, was the increase in the average number of slaves per family worthy of note.

Slaveholding families classified by size of holdings.—

But one classification of slaveholding families according to the number of slaves held has heretofore been made at a Federal census. At the Seventh Census (1850) a tabulation of this character was prepared and printed in the Compendium, and this affords an interesting analysis of slaveholders at that period. In the following table a similar classification is made for 1790 for all states for which the schedules are still in existence. An estimate is included for Virginia, based on figures of 1782 and 1783. (See pages 137 and 138.)

TABLE 64.—SLAVEHOLDING FAMILIES, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF SLAVES HELD, BY STATES AND TERRITORIES: 1790 AND 1850.

STATE OR TERRITORY.	Total number of slaveholding families.	NUMBER OF FAMILIES HOLDING—									
		1 slave.	2 to 4 slaves.	5 to 9 slaves.	10 to 19 slaves.	20 to 49 slaves.	50 to 99 slaves.	100 to 199 slaves.	200 to 299 slaves.	300 slaves and over.	Number of slaves unknown
1790											
Area for which 1790 schedules exist ¹	81,885	20,047	24,912	18,017	11,735	5,274	813	198	38	7	844
New England.....	2,147	1,332	689	113	12	1					
New Hampshire.....	123	97	24	2							
Rhode Island.....	461	255	160	45	1						
Connecticut.....	1,563	980	505	66	11	1					
Middle states.....	9,654	4,119	3,534	1,310	193	2					496
New York.....	7,796	3,068	2,867	1,165	181	1					494
Pennsylvania.....	1,858	1,031	667	145	12						2
Southern states.....	70,084	14,596	20,689	16,594	11,530	5,271	813	198	38	7	348
Maryland ²	12,226	2,841	3,617	2,807	1,796	713	96	16	3	1	336
Virginia ³	34,026	5,785	9,510	8,559	6,745	2,938	342	75	12		
North Carolina ⁴	14,973	4,040	4,959	3,375	1,788	701	90	11	2		7
South Carolina.....	8,859	1,930	2,603	1,853	1,201	859	285	96	21	6	5
1850											
United States.....	347,725	68,998	105,703	80,767	54,595	29,733	6,196	1,479	187	67	
Area comparable with that shown in 1790.....	127,458	22,164	37,624	31,052	22,190	11,565	2,194	572	89	28	
New England.....											
Middle states ¹	1,009	498	372	119	20						
Southern states.....	126,479	21,666	37,252	30,933	22,170	11,565	2,194	572	89	28	
Maryland and District of Columbia.....	17,517	5,585	5,870	3,463	1,861	657	73	7		1	
Virginia.....	55,063	11,385	15,550	13,030	9,456	4,880	646	107	8	1	
North Carolina.....	28,303	1,204	9,668	8,129	5,898	2,828	485	76	12	3	
South Carolina.....	25,596	3,492	6,164	6,311	4,955	3,200	990	382	69	33	
Remainder of area enumerated in 1790.....	87,311	19,427	28,455	20,909	12,416	5,380	628	82	11	3	
Added area.....	132,926	27,407	39,624	28,806	19,989	12,788	3,374	825	87	26	

¹ Data not available for New Jersey, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, and Tennessee. An estimate has been made for Virginia. (See page 137.)
² Data not available for 3 counties.
³ Estimated. See page 137.
⁴ As there were no slaves reported in New York or Pennsylvania in 1850, the number reported in Delaware and New Jersey is given, for purposes of comparison with the Middle states.

The changes which are recorded in the interesting inspection of the changes in proportions shown in the comparisons shown in Table — are made clear upon following table:

TABLE 65.—PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF SLAVEHOLDING FAMILIES ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF SLAVES HELD: 1790 AND 1850.

OWNERS OF—	TOTAL COMPARABLE AREA. ¹		MARYLAND AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.		VIRGINIA.		NORTH CAROLINA.		SOUTH CAROLINA.	
	1790	1850	1790	1850	1790	1850	1790	1850	1790	1850
	1 slave.....	24.5	17.4	23.2	31.9	17.0	20.7	27.0	4.3	21.8	13.6
2 and under 5 slaves.....	30.4	29.5	29.6	33.5	27.9	28.2	33.1	34.2	29.4	24.1
5 and under 10 slaves.....	22.0	24.4	23.0	19.8	25.2	23.7	22.5	28.7	20.9	24.7
10 and under 20 slaves.....	14.3	17.4	14.7	10.6	19.8	17.2	11.9	20.8	13.6	19.4
20 and under 50 slaves.....	6.4	9.1	5.8	3.8	8.8	8.9	4.7	10.0	9.7	12.5
50 and under 100 slaves.....	1.0	1.7	0.8	0.4	1.0	1.2	0.6	1.7	3.2	3.9
100 and under 200 slaves.....	0.2	0.4	0.1	(²)	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	1.1	1.5
200 and under 300 slaves.....	(²)	0.1	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	0.2	0.3
300 slaves and over.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	0.1	0.1
Unknown.....	1.0		2.7							

¹ Comprises in each year the New England and Middle states for which data are available and the Southern states here specified.
² Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

This analysis shows that in the comparable area practically the same proportion of owners held from 2 to 4 slaves in 1850 as in 1790. There was a considerable decrease, however, in the proportion of families having only 1 slave in 1850 as compared with 1790, and an increase in the proportions in the groups into which those holding between 5 and 300 slaves were divided. The changes recorded by individual states for which data are available for both censuses were more marked than those for the entire area. The economic condi-

tions which prevailed in Maryland and Virginia are clearly reflected in the percentages shown in the table. During the period under consideration the proportion of slaveholders owning but 1 slave increased in these states and decreased in North Carolina and South Carolina. In 3 of the 4 states an increase appeared in the proportion of persons holding from 2 to 4 slaves. In the fourth, South Carolina, a decrease appeared. In general the percentages shown reflect the tendency in Maryland and Virginia to reduce slaveholdings, either because of changing industrial conditions demanding less slave labor or because of an increasing number of more highly skilled white laborers better adapted to the increasingly exacting demands. In North and South Carolina the changes tend in the other direction, and are clearly the result of increasing dependence upon slave labor and of expansion of industries in which large numbers of slaves were essential to the prosperity of the community.

Slaveholding families in states for which schedules are missing.—The total number of slaveholding families shown upon the schedules of the First Census which are still in existence is 47,859. The total number of slaves owned by these families was 318,984, or slightly less than one-half the entire slave population of the United States in 1790. The average number of slaves held by the families reported on existing schedules as slaveholding was 6.7. If this average were applied to the total number of slaves reported, 378,640, upon the schedules which are not now in existence, the number of slaveholding families upon those schedules would appear to be 56,513.

The impression at once arises that this figure is too large, for the average by which it is secured includes all the Northern states. The slave owners of that section of the Republic required slaves principally as household servants, and the number owned by individuals was almost always small. Only 3 persons in the Northern states owned over 20 slaves each (Elijah Mason, sr., 28 slaves, Lebanon town, Windham county, Conn.; Robert Livingston, 44 slaves, Livingston town, Columbia county, N. Y.; and Margaret Hutton, 24 slaves, Washington township, Fayette county, Pa.).

The average number of slaves per slaveholding family, for each state for which records are still available, was as follows:

STATE.	Average number of slaves per slaveholding family.
New Hampshire.....	1.3
Rhode Island.....	2.1
Connecticut.....	1.7
New York.....	2.7
Pennsylvania.....	2.0
Maryland.....	7.5
North Carolina.....	6.7
South Carolina.....	12.1

If slaveholding families in New Jersey, which lay between New York and Pennsylvania and was probably subject to the same local influences, are assumed to have held an average of 2.4 slaves (the mean between the average in New York and that in Pennsylvania) then the total number of slaveholding families in New Jersey approximated 4,760. Doubtless this figure is close to the actual number.

In Delaware it is probable that conditions relating to slave ownership resembled more closely those which existed in Maryland than those to the northward, in Pennsylvania. If, however, the mean between the average in these 2 states, 4.8, be accepted and utilized as the probable average in Delaware, there were in that state approximately 1,851 slaveholding families.

For Virginia it would not be just to estimate the number of slaves per slaveholding family from the numbers for neighboring states, since the conditions prevailing in Maryland and North Carolina differed widely from each other, and doubtless differed as widely from those in Virginia, which was generally regarded at that period as the wealthiest state in the Union. Fortunately, another method is available by which the average number of slaves per slaveholding family in Virginia may be determined with reasonable accuracy.

It has already been explained that the partial lists of heads of families in existence for several counties of Virginia for 1782, 1783, 1784, and 1785 have been published by the Director of the Census in the series of Census publications containing the names of heads of families at the First Census. Inspection of these lists shows that the number of negroes connected with white households was reported in 1782 and 1783 for a total of 32 counties. While it is true that for some counties all white households are not reported upon these schedules, it is probable that the lists include, for the portions of the counties covered, all property owners, and hence represent the actual conditions of slave ownership. The counties for which lists exist, though located largely in the older settled areas, are not confined strictly to any one section, but are reasonably representative of the state. The total number of slaveholding families for the two years shown in the two returns above given was 10,806, and the total number of negroes, 91,768.

Analysis of the number of slaves per slaveholding family shows a county variation in 1782 from 2.9 in Pittsylvania to 11 or more in Amelia, Cumberland, Hanover, and New Kent. The average for the 19 counties for which returns for 1782 exist is 8.3 slaves per slaveholding family; for the 13 counties enumerated in 1783 and for which returns exist, the average is 8.8. The general average secured by combining the returns for both years as though reported at one census, is 8.5 slaves per slaveholding family. The detailed returns upon which these averages were computed are as follows:

TABLE 66.—Number of slaveholding families, number of slaves, and average number of slaves per slaveholding family in Virginia: 1782 and 1783.

COUNTY.	1782			COUNTY.	1783		
	Slaveholding families.	Negroes.	Average number of slaves per family.		Slaveholding families.	Negroes.	Average number of slaves per family.
Total.....	6,635	55,242	8.3	Total....	4,171	36,526	8.8
Amelia.....	794	8,749	11.0	Amherst.....	494	3,852	7.7
Charlotte.....	410	3,442	8.4	Chesterfield.....	580	5,061	10.1
Chamberland.....	346	3,882	11.2	Essex.....	347	2,817	8.1
Fairfax.....	420	3,609	8.6	Gloucester.....	325	2,764	8.5
Fluvanna.....	157	1,330	8.5	Greensville.....	257	2,601	10.5
Frederick.....	229	767	3.3	Lancaster.....	282	2,567	9.1
Halifax.....	464	3,290	7.1	Middlesex.....	180	2,282	12.7
Hampshire.....	156	513	3.3	Nansemond.....	403	2,567	5.5
Hanover.....	404	5,184	11.2	Powhatan.....	227	2,669	11.8
Mecklenburg.....	566	4,927	8.7	Prince Edward.....	165	1,468	8.9
Monongalia.....	23	81	3.5	Princess Anne.....	432	2,666	6.1
New Kent.....	260	2,957	11.4	Richmond.....	300	3,885	13.0
Northumberland.....	472	3,925	8.3	Shenandoah.....	110	347	3.2
Orange.....	319	2,348	8.9				
Pittsylvania.....	628	1,835	2.9				
Surry.....	278	2,729	9.8				
Sussex.....	418	3,696	8.8				
Warwick.....	91	776	8.5				
City of Williamsburg (James City and York counties.)	140	702	5.0				

There is no reason to doubt that the average thus secured reflects accurately the proportion of slaves to owners which existed throughout Virginia about the period of the First Census, and it is therefore accepted and utilized as such. The fact that the general average of slaves per slaveholding family in the distinctly slave states for which schedules exist is 8.1 tends to confirm this conclusion. Upon the basis of the average of 8.5 slaves thus established, there were 34,026 slaveholding families in Virginia in 1790.

The average in South Carolina may fairly be applied to Georgia, inasmuch as economic conditions in the 2 states resembled each other closely. The number of slaveholding families in Georgia, obtained in this way, is 2,419. In Kentucky and Tennessee the conditions were doubtless similar to those which existed in North Carolina. The use of the average number of slaves per slaveholding family in that state makes the number of such families in Kentucky 1,855, and in Tennessee, 510. As thus computed, the total number of slaveholding families in the states of New Jersey, Delaware, Virginia, Georgia, and the districts of Kentucky and Tennessee was 45,421. If this be accepted as a just approximation, the total number of slaveholding families in the United States in 1790 was 96,168.¹

Proportion of the white population connected with slave ownership.—Consideration of the total number of slaveholding families in the United States in 1790 suggests an analysis of the proportion of the white population who were members of such families. From a computation based on the average size of white slave-

¹Including an estimate of 2,888 for 6 counties—3 in Maryland and 3 in North Carolina—for which the schedules are missing.

holding families, already presented for the slaveholding states, the following results appear:

TABLE 67.—Proportion of the white population connected with slave ownership: 1790.

STATE OR TERRITORY.	Average size of white slaveholding families.	Number of white persons in white slaveholding families.	Per cent of total white population.
United States.....	5.9	563,699	17.8
New England.....	6.3	13,522	1.1
Maine.....			
New Hampshire.....	6.2	760	0.3
Vermont.....			
Massachusetts.....		2,993	4.3
Rhode Island.....	6.5	9,769	4.2
Connecticut.....	6.3		
Middle states.....	6.3	101,961	16.7
New York.....	6.1	47,405	15.1
New Jersey.....	6.3	29,938	17.6
Pennsylvania.....	7.0	12,942	3.1
Delaware.....	6.3	11,586	23.0
Southern states.....	5.8	448,216	36.6
Maryland ²	5.9	80,724	33.7
Virginia ¹	5.8	197,351	44.6
North Carolina ²	5.8	64,418	32.7
South Carolina.....	5.5	48,097	34.3
Georgia ¹	5.8	13,992	26.3
Kentucky ¹	5.8	16,742	17.6
Southwest Territory ¹	5.8	2,052	9.3

¹ Estimated.

² Estimated for 3 counties.

At the Seventh Census (1850) it was computed by the Superintendent, Mr. De Bow, that the population connected with slave ownership in 1850 numbered approximately 2,000,000. The average number of persons in slaveholding families was placed at 5.7. If this proportion be utilized for the purpose of ascertaining the distribution of the number of persons above mentioned, the following table results:

TABLE 68.—Proportion of the white population connected with slave ownership: 1850.

STATE.	Number of white persons in white slaveholding families. ¹	Per cent of total white population.
United States.....	1,082,033	10.1
New England.....		
Maine.....		
New Hampshire.....		
Vermont.....		
Massachusetts.....		
Rhode Island.....		
Connecticut.....		
Middle states.....	5,751	0.1
New York.....		
New Jersey.....	1,140	0.2
Pennsylvania.....		
Delaware.....	4,611	6.5
Southern states.....	1,076,282	32.1
Maryland and District of Columbia.....	99,847	21.9
Virginia.....	313,869	35.1
North Carolina.....	161,337	29.2
South Carolina.....	145,807	53.1
Georgia.....	219,199	42.6
Florida.....	20,064	42.5
Kentucky.....	218,795	28.7
Tennessee.....	103,025	25.5
Alabama.....	166,082	39.2
Mississippi.....	131,761	44.6
Louisiana.....	117,819	46.1
Texas.....	44,158	28.7
Arkansas.....	34,194	21.1
Missouri.....	109,355	18.5

¹ Estimated.

The proportion of the white population of the United States formed by members of slaveholding families declined from 17.8 in 1790 to 10.1 in 1850; in other words, 178 persons out of every 1,000 of the white population were directly or indirectly connected with slave ownership in 1790 and 101 out of every 1,000 in 1850. In 1790 approximately one-fifth of the total white population of the slave states and more than one-third of the white population of all the Southern states were members of slaveholding families. In 1850 the decline in the proportion of such persons was apparent in every geographic division. Slavery had disappeared in the New England states. In the Southern states as a whole there was a decrease from 36.6 to 32.1. Some of the states in the lower South, however, showed an increase.

In 1850 the number of persons in white slaveholding families formed about one-third of the total white population of the slave states. In South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana, exclusive of the largest cities, the proportion reached one-half of the whole population.¹

The proportion of persons in the entire white population either directly or indirectly connected with slave ownership, as shown in the following table, declined slightly from 1790 to 1850. In the 2 Middle states in which slavery still existed in the later year, the decline was very marked, while in the Southern states it amounted to about one-ninth. The real explanation of this table lies in the fact that the movement of slaves was steadily toward the lower South and Southwest, where the proportion in the entire population, as will be perceived from Table 20, was becoming very large,

¹ Seventh Census Compendium, page 94.

and also in the fact that the proportion of those who either owned slaves or were in some manner identified with slaveholding was slowly but steadily declining.

TABLE 69.—Proportion of the white population connected with slave ownership in states which reported slaves at both censuses: 1790 and 1850.

STATE.	1790		1850	
	Number of persons in white slaveholding families.	Per cent of total white population.	Number of persons in white slaveholding families. ¹	Per cent of total white population.
Area covered.....	489,740	34.0	1,357,700	28.6
Middle states.....	41,524	219.2	5,751	21.1
New Jersey.....	¹ 29,938	17.6	1,140	0.2
Delaware.....	¹ 11,586	25.0	4,611	6.5
Southern states.....	448,216	36.6	1,351,949	32.1
Maryland ²	⁴ 80,724	38.7	99,847	21.9
Virginia.....	¹ 197,351	44.6	313,859	35.1
North Carolina ³	⁴ 94,418	32.7	161,327	29.2
South Carolina.....	48,097	34.3	145,897	53.1
Georgia.....	¹ 13,932	26.3	219,199	42.0
Kentucky.....	¹ 10,742	17.6	218,795	28.7
Tennessee.....	¹ 2,952	9.3	193,025	25.5

¹ Estimated.
² Computed on the basis of the combined white population of New Jersey and Delaware.
³ Includes District of Columbia.
⁴ Estimated for 3 counties.

RATIO OF SLAVES TO WHITE PERSONS.

In the Southern states as they existed at the time of the First Census, the slaves numbered 648,651 and the whites, 1,226,057. Therefore, for every 100 whites there were 53 slaves. This proportion varied considerably in the 7 states and territories included in this group. The proportions of slaves to whites in 1790 and 1850, and that of negroes to whites in 1900, were as follows:

TABLE 70.—RATIO OF SLAVES TO EVERY 100 WHITE PERSONS IN 1790 AND 1850, AND OF NEGROES TO EVERY 100 WHITE PERSONS IN 1900.

STATE OR TERRITORY.	1790			1850			1900		
	White persons.	Slaves.	Number of slaves to every 100 white persons.	White persons.	Slaves.	Number of slaves to every 100 white persons.	White persons.	Negroes.	Number of negroes to every 100 white persons.
Continental United States.....	3,172,444	607,624	22	19,553,068	3,204,313	16	66,809,196	8,833,994	13
Area enumerated in 1790.....	3,172,444	607,624	22	12,305,444	1,842,570	15	29,564,821	3,956,864	13
New England.....	992,384	3,763	(¹)	2,705,095	.....	.....	5,527,026	59,099	1
Maine.....	96,107	.....	.....	581,813	.....	.....	692,226	1,319	(¹)
New Hampshire.....	141,112	157	(¹)	317,456	.....	.....	410,791	662	(¹)
Vermont.....	85,072	.....	.....	313,402	.....	.....	342,771	826	(¹)
Massachusetts.....	373,187	.....	.....	985,450	.....	.....	2,769,764	31,974	1
Rhode Island.....	64,670	958	1	143,875	.....	.....	419,050	9,092	2
Connecticut.....	232,236	2,648	1	363,099	.....	.....	892,424	15,226	2
Middle states.....	954,003	45,210	5	5,843,163	2,526	(¹)	15,264,839	356,618	2
New York.....	314,360	21,193	7	3,048,325	.....	.....	7,156,881	99,232	1
New Jersey.....	169,954	11,423	7	465,509	236	(¹)	1,812,317	69,844	4
Pennsylvania.....	423,373	3,707	(¹)	2,258,160	.....	.....	6,141,664	156,845	3
Delaware.....	40,310	8,887	19	71,169	2,200	3	153,977	30,697	20

¹ Less than 1.

TABLE 70.—RATIO OF SLAVES TO EVERY 100 WHITE PERSONS IN 1790 AND 1850, AND OF NEGROES TO EVERY 100 WHITE PERSONS IN 1900—Continued.

STATE OR TERRITORY.	1790			1850			1900		
	White persons.	Slaves.	Number of slaves to every 100 white persons.	White persons.	Slaves.	Number of slaves to every 100 white persons.	White persons.	Negroes.	Number of negroes to every 100 white persons.
Area enumerated in 1790—Continued.									
Southern states.....	1,226,057	648,651	53	3,817,186	1,840,044	48	8,772,956	3,541,147	40
Maryland ¹	208,649	103,036	49	455,884	94,055	21	1,143,956	321,766	28
Virginia ²	442,117	292,627	66	894,800	472,528	53	2,108,088	704,221	33
North Carolina.....	289,181	100,783	35	553,028	288,548	52	1,263,603	624,469	49
South Carolina.....	140,178	107,094	76	274,563	384,984	140	557,807	782,321	140
Georgia (eastern part).....	52,880	29,264	55	120,662	149,459	124	297,007	343,421	115
Kentucky.....	61,133	12,430	20	761,413	210,981	28	1,862,309	284,706	16
Tennessee.....	31,913	3,417	11	756,836	239,459	32	1,540,186	480,243	31
Added area.....				7,187,624	1,361,743	19	37,244,375	4,877,130	13
Northern states.....				5,207,988	87,422	2	25,775,870	495,751	2
Ohio.....				1,955,050			4,060,204	96,901	2
Indiana.....				977,154			2,458,502	57,505	2
Illinois.....				846,034			4,734,873	85,078	2
Michigan.....				395,071			2,398,563	15,816	1
Wisconsin.....				304,756			2,057,911	2,542	(³)
Minnesota.....				6,038			1,737,036	4,959	(³)
Iowa.....				191,881			2,218,607	12,663	1
Missouri.....				592,004	87,422	15	2,944,843	161,234	5
North Dakota.....							311,712	286	(³)
South Dakota.....							380,714	405	(³)
Nebraska.....							1,056,526	6,239	1
Kansas.....							1,416,319	52,003	4
Southern states.....				1,742,059	1,274,295	73	7,595,037	4,351,125	57
Georgia (western part).....				400,910	232,193	58	884,287	691,392	78
Florida.....				47,203	39,310	83	297,333	230,730	78
Alabama.....				426,514	342,844	80	1,001,152	827,307	83
Mississippi.....				295,718	309,878	105	641,200	907,630	142
Louisiana.....				255,491	244,809	96	729,612	650,804	89
Texas.....				154,034	58,161	38	2,426,609	620,722	26
Indian Territory.....							302,680	36,853	12
Oklahoma.....							367,524	18,831	5
Arkansas.....				162,189	47,100	29	944,580	366,856	39
Western states.....				177,577	26	(³)	3,873,468	30,254	1
Montana.....							226,283	1,523	1
Wyoming.....							89,051	940	1
Colorado.....							529,046	8,570	2
New Mexico.....				61,359			180,207	1,610	1
Arizona.....				166			92,903	1,848	2
Utah.....				11,330	26	(³)	272,465	672	(³)
Nevada.....							35,405	134	(³)
Idaho.....							154,495	293	(³)
Washington.....				1,049			496,304	2,514	1
Oregon.....				12,028			394,582	1,105	(³)
California.....				91,635			1,402,727	11,045	1
Total for slave states ⁴	1,272,367	657,538	52	6,222,418	3,204,051	51	18,796,609	8,028,519	43

¹ Includes District of Columbia.² Includes West Virginia.³ Less than 1.⁴ Delaware, Maryland (including District of Columbia), Virginia (including West Virginia), North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Missouri, and Arkansas.

There were fewer slaves to every 100 white persons in 1850 than in 1790 in the United States and in every state north of North Carolina; but in the other states of the original area the proportion increased. The increase was particularly heavy in South Carolina, where there were nearly twice as many slaves to every 100 of the white population in 1850 as in 1790. In this state and in Mississippi are found the highest proportions of negroes to whites in 1900.

For the slave states as a whole the number of slaves to every 100 white persons was slightly smaller in 1850 than in 1790. The proportion was higher in the Southern states of the added area than in the group of Southern states enumerated at the First Census.

VALUE OF SLAVES.

Statistics relating to slaves in the United States in 1790 would not be complete without reference to the property value which they represented. Writers upon this subject have estimated that at the period of taking the First Census the average price of negroes in the United States varied from \$150 to \$200. It must be remembered that a comparison of values, whether of slaves, real estate, or other property, at that period with the present one is comparatively unsatisfactory, owing to the change which has occurred during the century in the relative value of money. Such valuations should be considered only in relation to the

valuation of other property at that period; or, if they are considered in terms of money in 1900, not less than double the figure specified should be allowed.

Considered in terms of money values at that period, the slaves in New England in 1790 had a value of more than \$500,000 and those in the Middle states a value of approximately \$7,000,000. Hence about 6 per cent of the total value of slaves was contributed by the Northern states.

In view of the large total represented by the preceding computation, there can be no doubt that at the date of the First Census slaves represented a large proportion (possibly larger than at any subsequent period) of the total property value of the United States.

Upon the basis of an average price of negroes of \$150,¹ the wealth of the United States in slaves in 1790 was as follows:

¹ Political Science Quarterly, Vol. XX, pages 264-267.

TABLE 71.—Number and value of slaves held, by states and territories: 1790.

STATE OR TERRITORY.	Number.	Value.
United States.....	697,624	\$104,643,600
New England.....	3,763	564,450
Maine.....	157	28,550
New Hampshire.....		
Vermont.....		
Massachusetts.....	958	143,700
Rhode Island.....	2,648	397,200
Connecticut.....		
Middle states.....	45,210	6,781,500
New York.....	21,193	3,178,950
New Jersey.....	11,423	1,713,450
Pennsylvania.....	3,707	556,050
Delaware.....	8,887	1,333,050
Southern states.....	648,651	97,297,650
Maryland.....	103,036	15,455,400
Virginia.....	292,627	43,894,050
North Carolina.....	100,783	15,117,450
South Carolina.....	107,094	16,064,100
Georgia.....	29,264	4,389,600
Kentucky.....	12,430	1,864,500
Southwest Territory.....	3,417	512,550