

Jefferson on Excesses of Wealth and Poverty

Post by "Cassius" of January 28, 2019 at 3:49 PM

In regard to what it says about the social contract, I think it says at least in part that Jefferson saw that where a society has too great an extreme of wealth from top to bottom, with the majority of people at the bottom, that those who are at the bottom can be expected to revolt at some point, so that the society had better take steps to address that inequality if the society is going to survive. No matter what kind of "contract" the plutocracy thought it had, the majority who were barely surviving are not not naturally inclined to honor it in the long run given their own desire for pleasure and feelings of pain.