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THE
IMMIGRANT'S
GOOD SAMARITAN.

BY

HARMON KINGSBURY.

“Open thy mouth for the dumb—plead the cause of the poor and
needy.”—*Prov. 31.*

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P R E F A C E .

The history of mankind exhibits four forms of emigration: First, the original emigration from the spot where mankind were at first congregated, into the uninhabited parts of the earth. Second, the emigration of barbarian hordes into civilized countries. Third, the emigration from civilized nations into countries sparsely settled and imperfectly occupied by savage tribes. Fourth, the emigration of the surplus population of civilized nations to other civilized nations where large tracts of land remain unappropriated.

The first bears a certain close and important relation to the second; and so likewise the third to the fourth. The original emigration peopled the earth. This commenced with the dispersion. But when, as yet, literature was in its infancy, and there were no books of general circulation, and no institutions of learning to bear upon the masses of the people, the emigrating tribes removed from the parent stock, and thrown amid wild scenes and adventures, soon degenerated, and finally merged into barbarism. The second form of emigration was an irruption of this barbarism into the civilization which had been perpetuated in the parent stock, or which had grown out of it, and spread over nations and empires. This civilization itself—degenerated into imbecility, luxury, pride, and manifold forms of crime,—thus received the impression of a fresh life and manliness, and reappeared in the new nations and governments of the modern world.

The third form of emigration appears under its most

glorious aspect in the settlement of North America. The men who first planted themselves in the wildernesses of America were not a band of adventurers fleeing from the restraints of civilized life, or impelled by curiosity, the love of gain, or the ambition of founding new empires. They were men of worth, character and influence, possessing the arts of refined life, education, and the true religion. They emigrated at the expense of worldly wealth, honor and ease, for the sake of righteousness, truth, rational liberty, and the rights of conscience. They chose the wilderness, that they might be freemen and the servants of God. The lands which they occupied they purchased. They introduced into the wilderness agriculture, the mechanic arts, the institutions of learning, and the Bible. From small beginnings there grew up thirteen colonies of freemen, laying broad and deep the foundations of social and civil organization. These colonies, in process of time, broke off their connection with a foreign domination, and became independent states, bound together in a grand federal union. In their progress they have enlarged their territory and grown out into new states, until they have more than doubled their original number, and stretched their possessions from ocean to ocean.

The fourth form of emigration has been signally developed in the last quarter of a century, and is daily becoming more vast and momentous. The United States, together with their territories, constitute the great field into which the surplus population of Europe is pouring with a constantly augmenting tide. Having established the most perfect civil and religious freedom which the world has ever yet seen; having made ample provision for popular education; offering to enterprise and industry

the widest scope and relieved from all trammels; laying open immense tracts of the richest land at prices almost nominal,—we invite the men of all nations to come and expend with us their industry, and share our privileges and our plenty. It is the destiny of our country to receive this fourth form of emigration, and to show its results.

There can be but one of two possible results. Either this admixture of a foreign population, for the most part ignorant and superstitious, and often semi-barbarous although from nations reputed civilized, must dilute, corrupt and finally annihilate our national character and prostrate our institutions; or we must impregnate it with our own life, and by a healthful assimilation make it a part of ourselves.

We believe that our country is prepared for the latter alternative. Its original settlement, the principles which lie at the foundation of our institutions, its religious freedom, its means of popular education, its inspiring and regenerating influences, the vast increase and preponderance of the original stock; all give promise that, prepared of God, it is receiving into its bosom the benighted and down trodden multitudes of the old world, to enlighten and raise them up; and by bestowing upon them the great gift of civil and religious freedom, to bring them under a power which shall breathe into them the spirit, and impress upon them the features of American citizenship. But while this is the great mission of our country, in this age, still it will not take place by the energy of a necessary and irresistible law. The very influences by which the emigrants are to be raised to a higher and nobler existence, presuppose the voluntary agencies of phi-

lanthropy, and of that pure christianity which has been handed down to us from our fathers. The emigrants come to our shores strangers to our character, our institutions, and our resources. They are landed at our great cities exposed to want, idleness and vice. They require to be directed to the vast and fertile regions of the interior, where independent and virtuous homes are to be found. They require to be instructed in our great lessons of freedom, that they may distinguish between legitimate franchises and a destructive licentiousness. They require to be taught the right of independent thought, and the value of a free conscience. They require to be awakened to feel the necessity of education, and the unrestrained and daily reading of God's word. Here, then, is a wide field opened for benevolent effort on the part of all good patriots and good christians.

Our country in becoming an asylum of the surplus population of the old world, is becoming also a grand missionary field, where the fairest opportunities are offered for evangelizing men. The nations are coming in upon us, and it is our great work to educate them for such freemen as the truth makes free, to redeem them from the bondage of hierarchies and dark superstitions, and to bring them under the power of an untrammelled gospel. The field is now ripe for the harvest.

Mr. Kingsbury in this little volume has done good service in collecting the facts bearing upon this subject. He has also presented with great simplicity, and unpretending eloquence, the motives which urge us to immediate and vigorous action. It is to be hoped that this volume will obtain a wide circulation. It certainly cannot be read without lively interest and great profit.

HENRY P. TAPPAN.

I M M I G R A N T S .

SECTION I.

Introductory Remarks.

An *Emigrant* is a person who removes *out of* a country, for the purpose of permanent residence: but the same person, considered with reference to coming *into* his newly chosen home, is an *Immigrant*. Hence, the same man is properly called an *Emigrant*, with reference to his leaving his former abode, and an *Immigrant* with reference to his reaching his new residence. He may be at once an *Emigrant* from New-York or Europe, for example, and an *Immigrant* into Illinois. The distinction, therefore, has no other than a mere grammatical importance.

Ever since the days of Columbus this country has been receiving Immigrants from the various kingdoms of Europe. The annual number, however, has heretofore been small, compared with the present, and the subject has excited no very general interest, because, until quite recently, Immigrants have been able, by their own unaided exertions, to find suitable employment and commodious and desirable locations, as fast as they needed them. But from the numerous

causes which have been in operation, both at home and abroad, it would now seem as if Europe were about to pour the millions of her laboring population into the bosom of this free country, for weal or for wo, for life or for death, temporal and spiritual. They are coming in such numbers and under such circumstances as should excite the sympathy and commiseration of all, and they urgently call for paternal guardianship, brotherly greeting and hospitality; wakeful and untiring perseverance in their behalf, until they shall be comfortably settled in their new homes, by that Christian charity in all things, which worketh no ill to his neighbor.

This nation is a Christian nation in the broad acceptance of the term, and every real Christian is necessarily a philanthropist—a missionary, living to do good, *as well as to get good*. As Christians and as Patriots, in some things, we have put forth efforts to benefit our fellow men, especially the heathen and pagans in foreign lands; and we profess to desire to do much more than we have heretofore done for the souls and bodies of men; just such men, women and children, as God is now sending among us. What, too, in human nature is more noble and praiseworthy than this desire to labor for the good of others, whenever and wherever an opportunity is presented—to remove every evil, physical and moral, out of this darkened and sinful world—dry up every tear, banish every want, hush every sigh and exterminate every wo;

to raise man—the race, to the highest state of civilization, refinement and purity, and plant in his bosom undying hopes of a blessed immortality beyond the grave! Is there anything more elevating, ennobling, and Godlike than such a labor of love? And what amid all the toils and efforts of this world, is more likely to bring into the soul of every such philanthropist and Christian those waters of life which flow from the throne of God! Who will not strive to be foremost and most abundant herein, that he may share heavenly treasures reserved for him here and hereafter—his own soul becoming more and more enlarged, his mind more illuminated, and his strength day by day renewed? By this great movement in sending among us those whom we may benefit, God is affording those who desire to be constantly laboring for him, but are prevented from going abroad, an opportunity to aid in the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom, in a mode most desirable and convenient to them; in their own neighborhoods, and perchance at their own firesides. Will any one now decline the labor, when God in answer to their prayers, has, though in a way least expected, spread out the field before them, and invited them to enter! We trust not.

Number of Immigrants.

To show that these remarks are based upon facts, we will proceed at once to give a few items of statis-

tical information which have come to the Author's notice within a few months, without any special effort on his part, in reading the various periodicals published throughout the country. Many of these have been received and added since the main body of this work was prepared. The following remarks are from the National Era. "In the last twenty-two years 1,500,000 of people have emigrated from Great Britain. In the last five months 101,546 Immigrants have landed from abroad in the port of New-York alone. The accompanying table is copied from the REPORT of the IMMIGRANT COMMISSIONERS. "The number of passengers who arrived from May 5th to September 30th inclusive, and for whom commutation money was paid or bonds given, was 101,546, of whom only 25 were bonded. Of said passengers there were natives of

Germany,	40,208	Sweden,	118
Ireland,	48,820	Spain,	72
England,	6,501	Denmark,	51
Holland,	2,966	Portugal,	31
France,	2,633	Poland,	21
Scotland,	1,856	East Indies,	6
Switzerland,	1,505	Turkey,	1
Norway,	881	South America,	1
Belgium,	478	West Indies,	265
Italy,	139	Total,	<u>101,546</u> "

German and Irish, Celt and Saxon, in due time lose the peculiarities of race which seem indestructible in their respective countries, becoming fused here

in one general mass." *The REPORT OF THE GERMAN IMMIGRANT SOCIETY* from January 1st, to October 1st, gives the following. During this time about 50,000 German Immigrants have arrived in New York,* 143 ships from Havre, have brought 23,500. 85 from Antwerp, about 11,000; 79 from Bremen, about 4,245; 27 from Rotterdam, 1400; 25 from Liverpool, 700; 1 from Portsmouth, 504; 1 from Falmouth, 157; 1 from Plymouth, 240; 1 from Glasgow, 104; 1 from Stettin, 104." "In general they are in better circumstances than those of former years, the poorer classes having taken the cheaper route by Quebec." Again, arrival of Immigrants: *THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS FROM EUROPE*, who arrived at this port, (New-York,) during the year ending 31st July, 1846, and July, 1847, was as follows:

Where from.	1846.	1847.
British ports,	54,228	88,633
French ports,	15,632	26,769
Hanse Towns, (Bremen and Hamburg,)	12,887	15,525
Belgium,	4,402	13,128
Holland,	2,430	5,076
Sweden and Norway,	1,133	2,021
Prussia,	118	274
Spain,	13	1
Italy, Sicily and Sardinia,	204	114
All other ports,	334	465
	91,280	152,115

* It is supposed that there are, at least, 3,000,000 Germans in America.

THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE states that "Earl Grey, Colonial Secretary, writes to Lord Elgin, in Canada, that it will not be practicable this year to carry into effect a scheme of colonization. He would rather advise Parliament to grant a sum of money to construct railways in the colonies, and employ the emigrants on the works. He states, officially, that the number of persons who have emigrated to North America during the last twenty years is 1,337,000." The number of emigrant passengers that have left Liverpool for the United States and the provinces, from January 1st to June 30th, by official account, amounts to a grand total of 88,952. As children under twelve months of age are not counted, and as children under fourteen years are merely counted every two as but *one* "statute adult," upwards of 100,000 souls have quitted their native land within the last six months.

THE NEW-YORK SUN of May 18th, says, "there arrived in this port on Thursday and Friday of last week, the extraordinary number of 3,700 Immigrant passengers, 3400 of whom were from Liverpool and London, and 300 from Havre. A large number of them were sick with the ship fever. 518 came in the steerage of the Constitution. Nearly 100,000 have left Liverpool in the first six months of 1847.

THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE has taken pains to procure the accurate returns of the number of Immigrants landed at New-York—those published in some other papers not being correct. "From the 1st of Ja-

January to the 30th of June inclusive, whole number of passengers 87,954. Deceased at sea 947." "Six thousand two hundred and seventy-seven passengers arrived at New-York during the week ending the 8th instant."

The following Report is from A BOSTON PAPER: The ship *Tarolinta*, from Liverpool, arrived at Quarantine, Saturday of last week, with 197 Immigrants on board; 3 died during the passage, and 31 have been landed at Deer Island sick.

IMMIGRANTS IN CANADA. The total number of Immigrants that have arrived at Toronto, up to the 1st of August, is 20,386. The number sick in hospital at Grosse Isle, on the 24th ult. was 1,994; 194 died the week ending on that day. In the Marine and Immigrant HOSPITAL at QUEBEC, there were admitted from the 17th to the 24th ult. 1,183, of whom 86 had died." "There have arrived at Quebec this year, 63,729 Immigrants, being an increase of 36,893 upon last year, to the same date."

A NEW-YORK PAPER says that recently 2,100 Immigrants arrived in that port from Saturday to the Monday following. "From engagements made by our shippers, and other circumstances, we believe that the number arriving at New-York *alone*, during the year 1847, will reach 150,000 if not 200,000." We learn from other sources that the number actually reached, during 1847, a total of 166,110. About 40,000 Immigrants have landed at Toronto, Upper

Canada, this season. A large German Immigration has commenced in Texas, under the auspices of a union formed between several of the small principalities of Germany.

The NEW-YORK JOURNAL OF COMMERCE estimates, in view of the number of Immigrants who have arrived in this country during the past eight months, that the total number for the present year will amount to a quarter of a million. In our opinion three hundred thousand, at least, will be a safe calculation. Thus we see that they are coming in increasing crowds, and from all parts of Europe.

NOTE.—Every revolution in the old world may not only serve to increase the number, but the amount of money brought with them, because of the insecurity of worldly possessions in all those countries where thrones are tottering under the pressure of republican principles.

Why do they Come?

It may not be amiss to glance at some of the causes which drive them, in such multitudes, from their native shores. God has, in years that are past, been sending a few, both of the rich and poor, the good and bad, so that we might learn their habits and their wants, and know that they may safely be welcomed among us. But this year, by famine and pestilence, in addition to the ordinary causes, He is permitting not only tens, but hundreds of thousands in a few months, to seek a home in this distant land.

The following extracts faintly shadow forth some of the facts with regard to these subjects.

From THE NEW ENGLAND PURITAN. "God's hand is in the Immigration from Europe. Much is said, but we doubt whether enough is thought, of what God is doing in the transfer of the surplus population of Europe to this country. It is a mysterious feature in the Divine plan that has kept in reserve, in our west, so much of the best land in the world, for the exigency of this era, and for the purposes for which this Immigration is now taking place. When in former ages, wars, famine and pestilence, were commissioned to reduce the surplus population, it was not because the world had become too small for its people; for here was a vast portion of this continent, the very garden of the world, left to be the 'joy of wild asses, and the pasture of Buffaloes.' This ground was reserved for this time, for God had an intent, at this time, to bring together upon it a portion of each of the nations of Europe—to bring them away from under their spiritual despotism, to breathe the free air, and receive the radiation of a free gospel here; and then on the new lines of sympathy and intercourse, which they should have opened with their father land, to send back an influence to be as life from the dead to all Europe. The Divine plan seems now to be developed far enough to show that this will be the result, provided that the American Church shall be aware of the high vantage

ground on which God has placed her, and faithful to the trust committed to her. Once before, for a great purpose, He laid on a portion of the people of Europe a necessity for coming hither. He drove them hither by the heavy pressure of his hand, because he had a great end to answer by their coming. In the arrangements of his inscrutable providence he ordered it so that the choice spirits of the church reformed should feel an irresistible necessity for self-exile from all that was attractive in home and country, and go out, not knowing whither they went. For our fathers came here from no mere spirit of adventure or romance. It was rather in the spirit of martyrs. The alternative was, on the one hand a surrender of their principles and allegiance to God; on the other hand, exile, imprisonment or death. Exile was their choice of evils. Home was as dear to them as to us. They came hither, feeling that they were compelled to exchange their homes for a wilderness. In other words; the Providence of God, by a heavy and powerful hand, conveyed them hither. And through that transfer of a portion of Europe's population, God accomplished what we now see to be a great work, yet a work whose greatness we have hardly begun to see. Now he is putting forth a new edition of the same work. Again has he laid a broad and powerful hand on the people of Europe, and is compelling thousands of them to seek subsistence here. True, they are a different class of people, and are coming

for a different purpose. The first came to be the teachers of the world in all those principles which the world needed to learn; these are coming to be taught. Through two centuries the first have developed and tested their principles, and laid broad foundations for their extension; and now, at the fit time, the world is coming to their school. As before, these people that come from Europe leave their homes, which they would not leave if they could even find potatoes on which to subsist. But God, having a great purpose to develop by them here, has laid a great necessity upon them, to insure their coming. The famine has come simultaneously on many nations, that each may contribute to swell the vast multitude. Now from the broad bosom of all Europe they are collecting. "Lift up thine eyes round about, and see all they gather themselves together, they come to thee." "Who are these that fly as clouds and as doves to their windows?" Moved by a resistless hand, nations are flowing together upon us, for some purpose equal to the vastness of the movement and the means employed. God does not cause millions to perish by famine, and compel nations to empty out their population in mere caprice, or for trifling ends. As in the first planting of the country, so in this new and wholesale planting of it, he has designs broad as the world, and beneficent as his own nature. We are poorly able to fathom his designs. But we see that the minds of these thousands are

here coming under new influences and impulses. Benighted minds are coming hither to a new light; minds enslaved are here receiving new susceptibilities. It will require some time for them to feel the whole effect of the change. But a power above human will accelerate the effect. For God's Spirit goes in the wake of his Providence. His works of Providence are the means; his Spirit's work is the end. And the end will not fail to be as great as the means. If all this movement is for spiritual results, the work of grace in it will be as great as the work of Providence. And the work of conversion has already begun, showing what may be done if the Church, with becoming faith and zeal, enter into it. Ere long we may expect that the masses will be moved. It is not too great to expect that soon we may see the Papists assembling in masses, as in the late Washingtonian movement, the slaves of intemperance so assembled, to come under a reforming power. Then we shall begin to see for what purpose this famine came upon the nations.

One thing about this is worthy of notice. While the papists were coming at a much slower rate, most Christian minds had a dread of their immigration, and a fear that they were sent hither to enslave us. And now that they are coming by thousands, and in a way to show more distinctly the hand of God in their coming, fear and prejudice seem to have died away. The public mind seems to have received the

idea that there is a benevolent purpose in it, and that we are called upon to welcome the exiles and bless them with the light and privileges of the Gospel. And we would humbly trust that the hand of God, which has brought them hither, is effectually moving the hearts of our people to the high and responsible duties which these changes are devolving upon us. We shall be of all men most unfaithful, if now we do not rise in our might, and go forth to the work of evangelizing the millions that are brought to our door, so evidently for this purpose. And we pity those who are so blind as not to see the hand of God in all this, or so hardened as not to regard it. Beware lest that come upon you which was spoken by the prophets. "Behold, ye despisers, and wonder, and perish; for I work a work in your day, a work which ye will not believe, though a man declare it unto you."

"A BRUTAL OUTRAGE in Ireland. A letter published in the Limerick (Ireland) Examiner, under date of July 23d, gives the particulars of a scene of ejection in Ireland, which for cruelty and brutality is unequalled by anything that has taken place among the unarmed inhabitants of Mexico during the whole period of the war against that country. The scene of this outrage upon humanity was near Charleville, in the county of Cork. On the 13th of July, according to the statement, and in the village called 'Glen,' on the estate of the Earl of Cork, aided by the mili-

tary and police, on forty-eight tenants. Their houses or cabins were thrown down, and the forty-eight families, numbering about four hundred human beings, were turned out upon the high road. Of these it is alleged that more than *one hundred were suffering from fever*. They were obliged to take refuge in a church yard. The church yard of Ballysally contains many flat tomb stones, and grass-covered graves, and among those graves the ejected families slept for four consecutive nights, huddled together. One poor woman was taken off her bed four days after her confinement, and placed by the side of the ditch with her infant, both in a state of helpless exhaustion. Another woman had a family of seven, all suffering from fever. In a third family there were ten persons in a fever at the time of the ejection." The above is from THE NEW-YORK EVENING POST.

"FATHER MATTHEW'S CEMETERY, in Cork, is FULL. It has received 10,000 dead bodies since last autumn. A man must be really a philanthropist, when he provides as well for the dead, as for the living, like Father Matthew."

THE MARSHALL (Michigan) STATESMAN, has the following: "We notice in the Grand River Eagle, of last week, the proceedings of a public meeting held at Grand Rapids, to take some measures to aid and encourage the colony of Holland Immigrants that is now settling at Black River. The meeting was large and enthusiastic, and took hold of the subject with

spirit. Several important resolutions were passed, and among them *one* that immediate steps be taken to open a road between Grand Rapids and their settlement. This is as it should be; and we are glad to see these Immigrants receiving the countenance and sympathy which they so much need and so richly deserve.

“They came from their own country deeply imbued with the principles of civil and religious liberty. Their country is crowded and burdened with an immense surplus population: a *state religion* is forced upon them to support, which taxes them beyond endurance. And to find a home, in a free country, and beyond the reach of these oppressors, is the object of their search. That they should have grown up and lived under the debasing influence of a monarchical government, and yet have preserved an image of virtue and freedom in their hearts, and at its shrine have offered their pure devotion so long, is a sufficient guarantee of their character and influence. We are glad to see them countenanced, and to see the people of the beautiful valley of Grand River so alive and awake to their interests.”

A NEW MOVE IN EMIGRATION. The London Times says, “There are 10,000 female servants in London, alone, and over a million in England and Wales! The number of male servants is as great. The pressure of the times in England has operated very oppressively on servants. The London papers estimate

the number of servants out of employ, at this time, at 300,000, and adds: "A large portion of them are preparing to leave for Canada and the United States, where it is understood they can get good places and high wages."

Extravagance of the Nobility.

Notwithstanding all this misery and suffering, it is stated that Parliament allows the QUEEN of ENGLAND, for her support, \$1,750,000; for HER HUSBAND, \$133,000, and for HER HORSES and HOUNDS, \$310,000; making in all, \$2,190,000. "The salaries of the royal family of England amount to \$5,301,274, annually," a sum sufficient to send to this country all the emigrants they could find ships to carry, and leave a competent support for the royal family.

The LORD MAYOR of London has a salary of nearly \$40,000 a year. He has also a mansion, or palace provided by the corporation, which is furnished with great splendor; the banquet-hall rooms, and the Egyptian hall, are magnificent apartments. There is a spacious and elaborately carved state bed. There are twenty-four footmen in sumptuous liveries allowed the Mayor, besides a sword-bearer, who rides with him in his state carriage, a chaplain, a post master, two marshals dressed in sumptuous uniform, and twenty marshals' men, in blue, red and gold. The Mayor during his year of office is always dressed in a Court-suit and wears a scarlet mantle trimmed with

sable fur, a large gold chain and diamond badge, pending from it round his neck. His wife is called the Lady Mayoress, and, should she become a mother during the time of her husband's mayoralty, she receives a silver cradle as a present from the corporation. The carriage of the Mayor is generally most beautifully adorned with painting and gilding, and the liveries of the servants are generally gaudy in the extreme, being one mass of gold or silver lace. The state coach is an immense vehicle of carved work richly gilded, and having paintings representing the triumphs of commerce and civilization over barbarism. These paintings are by the celebrated Hogarth. The "Lord Mayor's Day," the ninth of November, the day of his inauguration into office, is one of great splendor; the state coach with six horses, accompanied by the footmen in state livery, the whole of the guilds or city companies in their mantles of ceremony, large banners of silk with the arms of the companies, and a number of knights in full armor, as in the days of the tournaments. This gorgeous procession returns by water. The boats are all gold and carving, the rowers in rich dresses, twenty to each boat; and the banners of all sorts, streaming from them."

"The SALARIES of some of the OFFICERS of the STATE are as follows;

	£
The Lord Chancellor,	14,000
“ Lord Lieutenant of Ireland,	20,000

The Attorney General,	. . . . .	£6,200
“ Lord Chancellor of Ireland,	. . . . .	8,000
“ Secretary of State,	. . . . .	5,500

Some half dozen other officers receive a salary over £5,000. The INCOME alone of the 27 BISHOPS of the Episcopal Church ranges variously from one to twenty thousand pounds per annum, to each man, while their various perquisites, from other sources, amount to a much larger sum. It has been stated that the total revenue of some of these dignitaries amounts to some \$300,000 per annum. The revenue of the Clergy of the Church of England and Wales exceeds £10,000,000, or about \$50,000,000. The funds of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference are estimated at about \$5,000,000.”

Below is a statement of the various DEBTS of EUROPE, incurred mostly in war and other efforts to sustain these various church and state interests. “These debts are the subject of an interesting article in a late number of Hunt’s Magazine. From which it appears that every nation in Europe, without exception, is in debt. Each of the petty German states pays a large amount of interest. The aggregate of the debts of the thirty-nine sovereignties is 10,499,710,000 German dollars, (equal to 82 cents of our currency.) The English debt swallows up in interest more than one half of the revenue out of which it is to be supported. Debt about £800,000,000, interest £28,000,000 a year. It would require ten millions ster-

ling, or \$100,000,000 a year, for eighty years, to pay the principal of this immense debt. We extract from the full table the following estimates of the debts of the larger powers.

Country.	Debt.	Average to each inhabitant.
Holland, . . .	\$ 800,000,000	\$266
England, . . .	5,556,000,000	222
Frankfort on the Main,	5,000,000	90
France, . . .	1,800,000,000	51
Bremen, . . .	3,000,000	54
Hamburg, . . .	7,000,000	46
Denmark, . . .	93,000,000	54
Greece, . . .	44,000,000	44
Portugal, . . .	142,000,000	38
Spain, . . .	467,000,000	35
Austria, . . .	380,000,000	31
Belgium, . . .	120,000,000	30
Papal States, . . .	67,000,000	26
Naples, . . .	126,000,000	16
Prussia, . . .	150,000,000	11
Russia and Poland, . . .	545,000,000	9"

Would not a trifle out of these enormous sums be as well expended in colonizing the poor, as in their legalized murder at home? It is this debt, incurred by the robbery and piracy of the rich, the lords spiritual and temporal, that makes them poor and homeless, and keeps them so. Would it not be simple justice to restore, say one hundredth of one per cent for their good, of the money thus forced from their labor, to their injury, by pride, avarice and extortion? God forbid that the aristocracy of Eu-

rope should ever be required to restore four-fold to those from whom they have unjustly taken, as the Scripture enjoined upon the Jews, for in that case all earth could hardly pay the debt.

These things we would commend to the consideration of the people of Europe; more especially of Great Britain, some leaders of whom are proposing a system of colonization for Ireland, as appears from the following extract:

“IRISH COLONIZATION. Some of the leading men of Ireland have come to the conclusion that the Irish, as a nation, must perish unless relieved of its surplus population. Eight laborers in Ireland are employed on a hundred acres of cultivated land, to three in England. It is therefore proposed for the English Government to colonize a million, or more, in Canada. Catholic and Protestant leaders, ecclesiastical and political, join in urging this measure on Lord John Russel and the British Parliament. The Boston Atlas has a series of articles on this subject from its foreign correspondent. The state of Ireland is one of grave importance, and humanity calls for practical and permanent relief. Nothing can be better than colonization, we should think.”

On the continent a system of actual force has been started, by which it is proposed to pour into our land the dregs of the population, a scheme as feasible as it is wicked, and one which ought to be vigilantly guarded against by the authorities of our prin-

cipal ports. For proof we refer to the following: "EXPORTATION OF PAUPERS. By recent publications in the *Courier des Etats Unis*, it is rendered indubitable that a general system of exporting to this country of their criminals, paupers and vagrants, but especially those unable to earn a subsistence, has been entered upon by the cities and villages of Germany; and that the cargoes of human wretchedness and destitution which have recently been landed on our shores are a part of the fruits of this nefarious and cowardly business." A large proportion of the criminals in our prisons, and paupers in our Alms-Houses, are of foreign birth, and we protest against being entirely overrun by them, but the able-bodied, honest, industrious poor, shall receive a hearty welcome, and we can accommodate all who wish to come.

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Their Character.

As these Immigrants are from all countries, so they are of every grade of character, many of them extremely poor and illiterate; and these are the ones for whose benefit, especially, immediate action is necessary; on the other hand some are able to pay their own expenses in this country, purchase land, and found at once, thrifty and prosperous settlements. The *JOLIET FREE DEMOCRAT* describes one of these in Illinois: "BOURBONNOIS Grove. This settlement is composed mainly of Canadian French. Noel Vasseur was among the first that settled at this point;

he purchased large tracts of land from the Indians, which he divided into parcels to suit purchasers. Through his influence others came on and bought small farms around the grove, until there are at present nearly 800 inhabitants gathered in its vicinity. Within the last month nearly 100 arrived from Canada, and have settled in this neighborhood. The French portion of the inhabitants are orderly, industrious, and wholesome citizens. They have left a monarchical government, and have come to our land of civil and religious liberty to obtain privileges which were denied them in the land of their nativity. Here they are freemen, all stand on the same broad platform of equal rights. The penniless mendicant and the highest functionary in our land enjoys the same privileges, our laws and institutions admit of no invidious distinctions. It is cheering to know that their children attend the public school at that place, and are learning our language. They acquire it with great facility. Great improvements have been made at the Grove the past summer. Several splendid buildings have gone up. Substantial and comfortable frame houses are taking the place of log-cabins. Thomas Durham, one of the oldest and most respectable inhabitants of the grove, has erected a commodious dwelling-house, under whose roof he no doubt will spend the remainder of his days, honored and respected. The soil is extremely fertile, timber abundant, and the scenery beautiful. We have seen the handsomest portion of

the Rock River country; but we have seen no section superior to Bourbonois Grove in soil, location or scenery."

A colony of about 1000 persons have just commenced a settlement in Iowa, one hundred miles west of the Mississippi, where they have commenced a town which was composed, at the time when it was visited by the correspondent of the Hawk Eye, of tents, barricaded by trunks, boxes, &c. He gives the following account of the colony: "This settlement is composed of a COLONY FROM THE kingdom of the NETHERLANDS, in other words, from Holland; they are all protestants who have left their native land (much like the Puritans of old) on account of political and religious intolerance and persecution. Their present population numbers something like 7 to 800 souls, with the expectation of a numerous accession of numbers the ensuing spring. They appear to be intelligent and respectable, quite above the average class of European Immigrants, having unquestionably brought with them more wealth, according their numbers, than any other agricultural Immigrants that have landed upon our shores. Mr. Schaulter, the President of the Association, together with several other of the leading men of the colony, are men of education, refinement, and a high order of intelligence. Mr. S. their President, was a student of the University of Leyden at the time of the Belgian insurrection, and took a conspicuous part with the patriotic

body of young men in vindicating the rights and honor of his country. He is the author of several works characterized by an unflinching advocacy of popular rights, and more recently the Editor of a periodical published at Utrecht, (Holland,) where he suffered much persecution, and even imprisonment, for the fearlessness and zeal with which he espoused the cause of religious and political freedom. Such is a faint outline of the character of the President of the 'Holland Settlement.' ”

THE ROCHESTER DEMOCRAT has the following incident. “Many German Immigrants that pass through this place for the West are of a class that will ultimately be a great benefit to the country. One day last week a company of ninety-two arrived here by railroad, and as the cars were to remain during the evening they marched in a body to the German Lutheran Church, *and held a PRAYER-MEETING.* The country has nothing to fear from such Immigrants.”

TORREY'S MICHIGAN TELEGRAPH says, “Another party of Hollanders, direct from Rotterdam, arrived this week in the cars, and left yesterday for the settlement at North Black River, in Ottawa County. Several hundred have already found a new home in the Michigan woods, and under the guidance of their pastor, Dr. Van Raalte, are converting the forest into luxuriant fields of grain. Mr. John Gibbs, of this place, is erecting a saw-mill for them, which will be in operation in the fall. We may calculate ere long

to derive a large amount of trade from this settlement of industrious Hollanders."

From a CHICAGO PAPER we take an extract as follows: "A great number of German Emigrants arrived on the SULTANA. At the houses where they stopped, on La Salle-street, we noticed as many as forty large trunks and boxes containing all the worldly gear of the owners, who were thrifty, healthy looking people. We noticed, also, that the building recently occupied by the soldiers in La Salle, on the north side of Lake-street, had been converted into a sort of caravansary for a large number, into which they had stowed any quantity of baggage. Altogether these Immigrants present a very respectable appearance, and they are almost uniformly pleasant, cheerful, and full of vivacity in their intercourse with each other. Were it not for the unmistakable German physiognomy, and the peculiar guttural of their language, they might easily be mistaken for French people. Some of the little boys wear wooden shoes, which look odd enough. We always stop a moment when passing such groups, drawn towards them by a sympathy which one naturally feels for those who have abandoned country and home, to seek in an entirely new world the blessings of a cheap soil and free government. We speculate, too, at times, upon the rapid fusion of races, which the immense influx of people from all nations tends to produce, and wonder what sort of a humanity we shall have some generations hence, when the so differing elements,

which now compose our population shall assume something like homogeneity. Then again we think of these broad western fields which have been providentially reserved as the home of the overflowing population of Europe, and thank heaven that such a provision has been made for them."

Again. "Three hundred SWEDISH IMMIGRANTS were landed in this city from the Steamboat Sultana. We understand that they will locate in Henry county, in this state, (Illinois,) where a large quantity of land has been purchased for them from Government. They appear, like the majority of their countrymen, thrifty, and are robust and healthy. Henry county offers great agricultural facilities, which they will no doubt assist in developing, both for their own, and the country's advantage."

"FLYING FROM PERSECUTION. A band of 230 Germans," says the American Messenger, "recently arrived in Missouri from a part of Germany, where an edict of the Prince had abolished the Heidelberg Catechism, and substituted for it the *Rationalist* Catechism, which they were compelled to use, if any; and he had appointed a consistory, the President of which was an infidel, and prohibited prayer-meetings. Resolved on 'freedom to worship God,' according to the dictates of their own consciences, they came to this country, and settled in a body in the interior of Missouri. On arriving at their new home, where they intend to train up their children for heaven, they

assembled to render thanksgiving and praise. On the prairie wilds, awed by no armed police or bristling bayonets, they held a prayer-meeting, when one of their number thus addressed them, in a style befitting our pilgrim fathers' landing at Plymouth in 1620. "Brethren, remember the object of our coming here is not for money, nor fertile lands, nor even for bread. We come here for rights of conscience. We indeed see before us suffering and hardship, but we have suffered infinitely more grievous evils in our own land. There we were oppressed and forbidden to instruct our children in the truths of religion. But in this free air we breathe out our prayers to God unmolested. We will impart to our children a knowledge of the living principles of the Gospel. Let us not then repine at our lot. Let us here lay broad and deep, for ourselves, our children, and our children's children, the strong foundations of a pure and simple worship."

No introductory remarks to the following, from the American Protestant Society, are necessary. It speaks for itself, a knowledge of the *fact alone*, unaccompanied by appeal or argument, as it seems to us, is sufficient to awaken sympathy and insure action from all who have a *heart* to feel, and a hand to help.

Appeal for 600 persecuted Portuguese!

"On the island of Trinidad are about 600 Portuguese who have fled from the persecutions of the Ro-

mish Church, at Madeira. They are converts from the Church of Rome. For reading the Bible and embracing the Protestant faith, they were thrown into prison, and finally released on condition that they would leave their native country. They went to Trinidad, where, under the British flag, they have liberty of conscience. During the past winter the American Protestant Society sent their Portuguese missionary, Rev. Mr. Gonsalves, (who is a native of Madeira, and was educated there for the priesthood of the Roman Church,) to preach to these persecuted converts in Trinidad. There he found about 600 of them organized into a church, with Mr. De Silva, a native convert, for their pastor. They are farmers and mechanics, an industrious and virtuous people, who have literally sacrificed friends, property and country, for the sake of the Gospel and freedom to worship God. While they have religious freedom in Trinidad, that was denied them in their own country, they have no employment, and hence are now in a suffering condition. *They have made an appeal to the Executive Board of the American Protestant Society, and through them to the Protestants in the United States, to give them a home in our happy country.* We here publish the letter of Mr. De Silva to the Board, which is of itself enough to awaken the sympathy and benevolence of the Protestant community. Of the character of Mr. De Silva, the Rev. Mr. Kennedy, the pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Trinidad, speaks as follows:

“ I have had the privilege of knowing him intimately ever since his arrival in this island, and I am happy in being able to say, without reservation or hesitancy, that his diligence and faithfulness as a minister of the Gospel are most exemplary. I may also mention

that Mr. De Silva is characterized by great judiciousness, and is able to give wise counsel in things temporal to his expatriated countrymen, as well as to act as their spiritual instructor and guide."

"TRANSLATION OF MR. DE SILVA'S LETTER.

"Trinidad, Port Spain, 1848.

"*To the Executive Board of the
American Protestant Society.*

MY DEAR BRETHERN IN CHRIST.—Your Missionary, the Rev. Mr. Gonsalves, accomplished with zeal the evangelical work which you gave him to do amongst the people of Madeira, brought here, as you already are aware, in consequence of having been furiously persecuted by the Priests of Rome. This people prefer the Gospel of Christ to all their earthly possessions, and for the Gospel's sake have given up houses and lands and all their interests in their own native land.

When your Missionary arrived he found me constituted minister of this spiritual people. And he will inform you, as a faithful eye-witness, of the great blessings enjoyed by this church, poured down upon us through the faith of Jesus our Savior.

Finding myself constituted the pastor (though unworthy of so great a trust) of a church of over 600 persons, it is not only my duty to feed them with spiritual aliment, but also to seek prayerfully their temporal good; endeavoring to keep them together in the faith, and enjoyment of their daily bread.

And that they may be able to hear the Word of God with profit on the days appointed, I do not see here the prospect of keeping this people in the midst of the present distress, as their labors are not

paid for as they should be, for in this sickly climate, when the husband and father is taken to the hospital, the wife and children are left destitute, and not being able to pay the house-rent, they are turned into the streets to beg from door to door. This state of things led me to solicit of the governor of this island, (Lord Harris,) a portion of land to be divided among the Portuguese, that they might on the same build their cabins, provided they could receive some aid in advance, to be paid by them in the course of time. But although the governor is friendly to us, yet, in his official capacity, he said he could not comply with our request. I have also written on this subject to the Rev. Mr. Hewitson, of Scotland, who answered that we should find it difficult to obtain lands for families in these islands. And finally, in the midst of these efforts, the Bank of the West Indies failed, and sugars came down in price, and business was prostrated, to the ruin of many households. Government works were stopped, and laborers can find little or nothing to do. And worse than all, our children, whose morals should be preserved at every expense, are mixed with a low, profane, wretched, Roman Catholic population. I have consulted also the Rev. Mr. Kennedy, pastor of the English Presbyterian church, and Rev. Messrs. Boodie, Banks, Kerr, Black, and Berry, on a visit from the United States to this island. I said to these brethren that I believed God would in his way prepare a place for his people in some country where I might retire with the whole church, and that he would open the hearts of the faithful, that they might bestow upon us the requisite aid. These gentlemen thought the United States of America offered advantages greater than any other country for a Bible-reading, spiritual, virtuous, in-

dustrious people; that a people persecuted for the Gospel's sake could not fail of finding sympathy in the hearts of the friends of Christ in America. I have also written to the friends of Christ in Scotland, that they might still feel for this people, who must receive immediate aid, or many of them will perish with misery. I do not ask for money, but for lands. I ask what God has given to man, that he might earn his bread by the sweat of his brow. Our people are mechanics and farmers, virtuous and industrious; they will soon thrive with the blessing of God and the labor of their hands. They will soon rejoice in abundance, for they hate vice and love virtue. All these things I made known to the Rev. Mr. Gonsalves, and he, seeing the desire of all the Portuguese to depart for the United States, for they were ready to fly, offered to take with him a small number, believing that the excellent American Protestant Society, and the Christian community, would assist them with all the aid in their power. But on the whole I thought we should wait until we should receive advice from the American Protestant Society, and the friends in Scotland, who under God have granted us so many blessings, and to whom we feel greatly indebted. And as the Rev. Mr. Gonsalves was about to return to his field of labor in the United States, I have taken the liberty, in the name of a persecuted and suffering people, to write a letter to the Protestant friends of Christ in America, through the American Protestant Society, that they may pray for us, and come to some holy and charitable determination in our behalf. For I am ready to depart to any part of the world where this people of the Lord may enjoy the blessings of God's grace, and leave the same

to their dear children. Farewell. The God of peace bless you, my friends, and all America, with the riches of his grace.

Your affectionate brother in Christ,

ARSENIO NICOS DE SILVA.

We add only a few words. Such an appeal has never been made to us. Six hundred persons, recently from the persecutions and prisons of their native country, ask a home among us. Shall they be denied? They ask not for money, but land. Shall we refuse it? We have frequent appeals for Missionaries and Colporteurs at the West. Here is an opportunity of sending 600 at once, all converts from the Church of Rome, who will be faithful witnesses for the truth in the midst of Romanists on our new lands. The expense will be much less than is required to send out individuals from time to time by different societies. It will be such a colony as has not been planted in the West. Who can tell the results of it? Shall there be a response to this appeal, or shall we say, "Stay and suffer in Trinidad, or return to the persecutions and prisons of Madeira?" Shall we who enjoy the luxury of freedom, thus trifle with the sufferings of the oppressed? Shall we thus shut off sympathy for the persecuted, and benevolence for the destitute?

Among these persecuted people are Mrs. Alves, her husband, children, and sister. Mrs. Alves was sentenced to suffer death by the Papal Court at Madeira, because she would not say that the *wafer* in the hands of the priest, was God. She and her sister were confined about three years in the dungeons of Madeira.

We call upon Protestants to furnish the means of defraying the expenses of the passage of these homeless people to our shores, and of purchasing new lands for them. Their condition is such that there should be no delay. Literally, they are strangers and pilgrims, having no certain dwelling-place. Shall this be to them the land of promise, where they may find rest from the persecutions of their enemies?

Money may be remitted to the Treasurer of the American Protestant Society, M. De Motte, Esq. 150 Nassau-street, New-York.

By order of the Executive Committee of the American Protestant Society.

HERMAN NORTON, *Cor. Secretary.*

“A COLONY IN IOWA.—A company of Hollanders, one thousand in number, have purchased two townships in Marion county. Nearly three thousand more are expected to join them during the next year. They bring with them their own merchandize and artisans, and come in every way prepared to take care of themselves. They will make excellent citizens, industrious, economical and orderly.”

“A NORWEGIAN NEWSPAPER in the United States.—Among other new enterprises in Wisconsin, is the establishment of a Norwegian press, in the town of Norway, Racine county. The proprietors are Messrs. Bache, Heg and Rymert, and it is to be conducted and edited by the latter gentleman, who speaks English well. It will be independent in politics, and will aim to keep the Norwegians of the

territory well informed on all subjects of interest, or importance to them, in their new relations to the citizens of the United States. The Norwegian settlements in the West, says the *Milwaukie Gazette*, are already numerous, and growing rapidly. There are now in Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa, twenty settlements, sixteen of them within the limits of this territory. They embrace a population of from fifteen to twenty thousand people, frugal, industrious, honest, law-loving, and law-abiding citizens. The principal settlement in Wisconsin is on Koskenong prairie, where there are nearly a thousand Norwegian families. In the town of Muskego, Waukaska county; and Norway, Racine county, which adjoin each other, the Norwegian settlers number nearly one thousand. In Rock county there are a thousand and upwards, and many in Jefferson, Dodge, and other northern counties. We have just received the first number of the new Norwegian paper, published at Norway, Racine county, Wisconsin Territory. 'NORDLYSET,' is its name, which, being interpreted, means Northern Light. It is about half the size of the *Tribune*, (Chicago,) and is published weekly. The *Milwaukie* papers say that the editor is a man of talent, and we hope he will exert a good influence upon his countrymen in this region. From a translation of the prospectus, we learn that the 'Nordlyset' will contain everything of interest relating to the father-land, and at the same time give its readers

the requisite means of judging of the laws and institutions of the country which they have chosen as their second home. The Norwegians everywhere possess a high character for good morals, industry and thrift, and it is gratifying to learn that their mental culture keeps pace with their material prosperity."

"The JUPITER, which arrived at Quarantine on Saturday from Havre, had 129 Norwegian Immigrants destined to the Norwegian settlement in Wisconsin." The Norwegians, having called on the Bible Society for a copy of the Inspired Word in their own language, are to have an edition of 20 or 30,000 prepared for their use. But *all* the Immigrants should be taught to read, and furnished with Bibles whether they ask or not. They *must* have the word of Life.

"Three Immigrants arrived in Baltimore a few days since, from Germany, who deposited *sixty thousand dollars in gold* with the Baltimore Bank, an hour or two after their arrival."

"On THE PHOENIX, lost on Lake Michigan, were 250 Immigrants, most of whom perished, from Holland, all bound to Milwaukee. It is supposed that they had at least \$50,000 with them. One girl eighteen years of age was the sole survivor of a company of twenty five, who had together \$18,000."

"It is estimated that within a circle of about five miles around the city of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, there are upwards of 100,000 inhabitants, viz: Americans, about 55,000; Irish, 15,000; Germans, 20,000;

English, 5,000; Scotch, 3,000; Welsh, 5,000; French, 500; colored, 1,000. There are about 100 churches, with as many Sabbath Schools, and about 125 clergymen of various religious denominations." Do not foreigners make good citizens?

Their Feelings.

"The RELIEF SHIP, Macedonian, Commodore De Kay, arrived at Cork on the 16th of July, to gladden the hearts of thousands of the poor and needy. As might be expected from the Irish character, the expressions of gratitude are neither few nor cold. The European Times notices her arrival and subsequent proceedings as follows; 'This noble frigate, commanded by Commodore De Kay, reached Haulbowline on the 16th inst. after a fine voyage of twenty-nine days from New-York. The Rev. C. C. Taylor, the leader of the temperance movement in America, came over as supercargo. The crew, sixty in number, are all teetotallers, and no spirits have been allowed aboard. This splendèd vessel, of 1,800 tons, has brought the generous contributions of the American people for the relief of the distress of their Irish fellow creatures; but it is understood that Commodore De Kay manned and provisioned the vessel at his own cost, it is said of £4,000. On Saturday Rev. Father Matthew, accompanied by the Mayor, went on board the frigate and were received with great enthusiasm. The yards were manned, and

prolonged cheers were given for "Father Matthew, and the Mayor of Cork," which were responded to by the people on shore. The utmost enthusiasm was exhibited by both officers and sailors towards the Apostle of Temperance, who spent some time on board, conversing with them; and, it is needless to say that he completely won their hearts by his unaffected good humor and friendliness. On Mr. Matthew and the Mayor leaving the vessel, a boat was manned to convey them to Monkstown. It was steered by Mr. De Kay, son of the Commodore, a fine intelligent boy about fifteen years of age. The Commander of the Macedonian dined on Saturday with admiral Sir Thomas Usher, and yesterday he was to be a guest at the hospitable board of Rev. Mr. Matthew. Proceedings have already been commenced with a view to show some token of respect and gratitude to Commodore De Kay, for his most noble and praiseworthy conduct in this matter. The Mayor, in conjunction with some of the most influential citizens, have determined to entertain him and his lady by a steam trip round the harbor and coast, similar to the entertainment given to the late Mr. O'Connell on the occasion of his late visit to Cork. At a meeting of the corporation, to be held on Thursday, an address will be presented to him."

The annexed extracts are from AN ADDRESS SENT TO THE PRESIDENT of the United States, by the Corporation of Cork. Its eloquence "breathes the gra-

itude and spirit of the Irish people." We copy from the WASHINGTON UNION. "To the President of the United States of America: Sir, We, the Mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of Cork, in council assembled, desire, most respectfully, in behalf of our fellow citizens, to express our heartfelt gratitude to you, Sir, the head of the United States Government, and through you to her legislature, and also to her great and generous people. In this warm and earnest record of our thankfulness, it would be out of place to discuss the causes of our national poverty, restricting the great mass of the Irish people, for subsistence, to one article of food. The immoderately cold and sunless summer of 1845, was followed by a deficient potato harvest; but in 1846 the visitation was universal, and its awful consequences are still pressing severely on our community. Famine brought disease. Grain at an exorbitant price was in many places scarce, and difficult of access; starvation and all its miseries were around us; but the cry of those who were ready to perish was heard even across the dividing sea. The American nation with ready sympathy came to the rescue, unsolicited, except by their own hearts; they gave food to feed the hungry, to check the famine-fever, and under the blessing of a merciful God, to restore the sick to health and usefulness. Sir, we are of one blood with your own America—brothers. Many of the boldest and purest spirits of England, Ireland and Scotland, have made

their homes in the great Western Republic. That love of liberty which they carried to your shores is become your nations charter. Of one mind and one heart with America, we glory in her acts of philanthropy; we emulate her independence. MAY HER BANNER EVER FLOAT ABOVE THE BRAVE AND FREE. Sir, the generous aid given by the American public, and sent on a peace-making mission in American ships of war, has done more to secure continued harmony between the countries than any armament could effect. Your people by doing us good have recognized the ancestral relationship which belongs to us; while we, in our cordial gratitude, will ever use the remembrance of your noble benevolence as the talisman of amity."

Let us cultivate these kind feelings, these emotions of gratitude, by continuing our interest in their welfare after they come among us. We have contributed largely for the starving in Ireland, and can we now withhold aid from her children, Immigrants at our own doors, fleeing from their destitute and degraded condition, in the land that gave them birth? Ireland can never forget that 30,000 of her sons and daughters were saved from utter starvation by the £300,000, in money and provisions, sent to them by the American people? No, these, and other charitable efforts for her aid, in the midst of her sorrow and oppression, have secured the confidence and good will of that whole nation, and let us not now destroy

that confidence and good will by treating their wants with careless neglect the moment they arrive on our shores. Let us increase, and insure it for ever, by continuing to exert, here at home, the same benevolent course of action that we have pursued towards them in their own sorrow-stricken island. In eighteen months during the famine, it is said, that Great Britain contributed to aid the suffering, five millions of pounds, and loaned to Ireland five millions more; yet, notwithstanding all that was done in their behalf, H. Grattan, Member of Parliament, declares that 115,929 persons died of famine.

Their Sufferings.

The sufferings of these unfortunate people in consequence of the cruel and criminal manner in which they have been crowded into ships, half supplied with unwholesome provisions, and transported to this country, are terrible in the extreme. We give a few extracts relating to those who have arrived in the Canadian ports, where the distress has been greatest.

From THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE. "England continues to force into self-banishment multitudes of her unfortunate citizens, some through imprisonment, some through the fear of it. Many who cross the Atlantic bring large sums of money with them, others are driven out of the streets, the garrets and the cellars of Liverpool, Dublin, Cork, and Manchester, into crowded, filthy, ill-ventilated ships, and suffer

privations; and from stench, sickness, vermin, &c. only less than the imprisoned in the Black Hole at Calcutta. 'Tis a dreadful thing to sport with men's lives, as the English and Irish holders of the Irish soil are now doing. At the QUARANTINE GROUND, BELOW QUEBEC, arrived last week, the bark John Munn, Liverpool, 100 dying of fever, 59 DEAD, and their bodies lowered into the salt sea! 452 passengers sailed down the Mersey. How many of them will be likely to reach Illinois or Michigan! The bark, *Covenanter*, from Cork, brought 400 passengers, 80 had the famine fever, and forty-three had died in the hold or steerage. The *Rosalinda*, from Belfast, had 17 deaths and 474 passengers; the *Odessa*, from Dublin, 31 deaths; other vessels 34 deaths. Eleven vessels, with 3,597 passengers, (less 174 who died at sea,) arrived at Quarantine in less than three days. On the 2d and 3d inst. other 1,399 Immigrants reached Quebec; and it is probable that of seventy thousand and upward, by the St. Lawrence, 50,000 at least will eventually settle in the States, or buy farms from Canada people desirous to move hither. The MONTREAL HERALD correspondence states that the deaths at the Hospital there are from 50 to 190 per week; and that the Hospitals at Quarantine are all full, and 30 to 40 per day dying. "I learn, says the writer, that two hundred of the passengers of the *Virginus* have died since her sailing, and it is said that very few of her whole number, (upward of 500,)

will recover." The same print in an extract from "The QUEBEC CHRONICLE, tells us that the ship, Saguenay, is off Bic, all the crew, except six, down with the disease; 76 of the passengers dead and buried in the deep sea, and that enough are not left to work the vessel. The MERCURY adds, that on board that ill-starred ship THIRTY OTHER deaths had since occurred while they were towing her up the river! On the 4th inst. 48 persons died in the GROSSE ISLE HOSPITAL, in which 2,148 fever and dysentery patients are now placed. The Episcopalian and Presbyterian bodies had met at Quebec to endeavor to devise means for the safety of their own members. Of 2,000 healthy persons detained in the tents at Grosse Isle, many are daily falling sick. The ship Free Trader, which sailed from Liverpool with 421 passengers, chiefly the poor creatures who had the alternative at Liverpool of being shipped back to Ireland to starve, or of crowding the hold of a Quebec ship, loaded with Famine-Fever for America, has reached the Quarantine ground; 30 of her passengers are dying of fever and dysentery in the pent-up atmosphere of the hold other 40 are dead, and their bodies have become food for the fishes. Between 70,000 and 80,000 Immigrants have reached Quebec this year; but of these, as is evident to those who read the Canada papers, large numbers died in the upland country. Many who bring much wealth with them die. Who looks after their means?"

The MONTREAL HERALD laments that "the Immigrants who arrive there daily come in dreadful plight. The deaths at the Immigrant sheds are fearfully numerous. Twenty-five deaths a day have been about the average. Great dissatisfaction prevails at this pouring out of paupers upon us. A remonstrance, from the House of Assembly is to go home by this mail to the Imperial authorities."

The MONTREAL PILOT says, that "The accounts from Grosse Isle, the Quarantine ground, thirty miles below Quebec, are of the most alarming description, nearly 2000 Immigrants having died either on the passage out, or at the Quarantine station, and typhus fever of the most malignant kind is raging at Grosse Isle. The Quebec correspondent of the Montreal Herald had ascertained that up to the 5th inst. 600 Roman Catholics, and 75 Protestants had been buried at Grosse Isle; that 1,300 lay sick in the churches, sheds and tents, and that 12,000 persons were in the ships at anchor there."

It is stated that 17,000 Immigrants who arrived in Canada during the last season have perished from want and disease. At Toronto there were still 800 in Hospital, late in the season. The typhus fever proved fatal amongst those who landed there.

One extract from a BOSTON PAPER will show their condition in that city. The Transcript remarks. "Not only are our Alms-Houses and Hospitals crowded with the poor and sick, who are daily flocking to our

shores, but our streets also are swarming with them; and in almost every part of the city we see groups of these poor people, sick and feeble, resting their weary and emaciated limbs at the corners of the streets, and on the door-steps of both public and private houses, exciting the commiseration, and at the same time the disgust of all who see them. What is to be the result of all this we are unable to say, but some measure must speedily be taken to abate the evils, of a most stringent nature too, or our city will become one vast lazaretto."

SECTION II.

How to be disposed of.

The question now naturally arises, "how shall all these people be disposed of?" There is scarcely a county in any of the northwestern states which could not furnish good homes, and abundant employment for at least 200 men and boys, as many girls, and the whole families to which they belong, to the advantage of the Immigrants and of the county. And there must be many counties that would be glad to receive 2,000. 30,000 the first year would probably not be too many to invite into the state of Illinois alone.

REV. HENRY W. BEECHER says, in a Thanksgiving Sermon, preached in the Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, New-York, 1847. "If a million of people should annually pour into the State of Indiana, for fifteen years, the soil could sustain them. I shall be thought extravagant by those only who have not reflected, when I say that if not a kernel of grain were raised in any other state of the Union, Indiana, if put to its full capacity, could easily supply every one. At twenty bushels to the acre, Indiana might yield, if wholly tilled, an annual crop of 500,000,000 bushels of wheat. If Illinois were to yield only Indian corn, at the rate of fifty bushels per acre, her

annual crop of maize might become 1,920,000,000 bushels. These two states alone might annually supply 20,000,000 of people respectively, with twenty-five bushels of wheat per head, and nearly one hundred bushels of corn. * * * The absolute capacity of an acre of soil has never yet been tested. The nearest approximation has been made, under the allotment system of Great Britain, the soil being cultivated entirely by the spade. From some estimates founded upon the results of that system, it is not wide of the truth to say that Indiana, upon her 23,000,000 acres, could sustain a population of 90,000,000." We know a farmer in Illinois who annually fattens, from the products of his own farms, from \$40,000 to \$60,000 worth of beef, beside great quantities of pork.

There is room enough, then, but many of the Immigrants are destitute of all means to reach these parts of our country, that seem waiting to receive them. We ought then,

To form Societies

for their benefit and relief. Emigrant Societies should be organized all over Europe, whose duty it should be, first, to furnish food, raiment and money enough to defray their expenses, and buy 40 acres of land at least, for each family, this land costing, say \$50 or \$100. This Europe can better afford to do than to keep them at home. Further, they should

see that each, *and every one of them*, are comfortably shipped, and have accommodations secured to them. so that there should be a reasonable probability of health and comfort till landed on our shores.* It may be necessary, and the accomplishment of this object may be of sufficient importance, if it cannot be done without, to send agents to Europe to begin aright, and form societies there; to set the ball in motion, and the expense would be small in comparison with the advantages to be derived. These Societies should be in correspondence with Immigrant societies in this country. Four *general* protecting societies, at least, should immediately be formed, say one in New-York, Boston, Quebec and New Orleans, to act on the principle of forwarding houses; and auxiliary protecting and forwarding societies should be formed in Albany, Buffalo, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, Peru, St. Louis: and in all the Western states and counties, receiving, protecting and distributing societies where there are government lands, especially prairies, these being the most suitable for those unaccustomed to the use of the axe; and in such other places as will afford Immigrants useful and profitable employment; together with educational and religious advantages; for, would we avoid, and render harmless any Roman Catholic predilections

* We rejoice to hear that the English government talk of raising a fund in their behalf, of some hundred thousand pounds sterling.—*New-York Evangelist*.

and influence, we must do all for their mental, moral, political and spiritual well-being, that we would do for our own sons and daughters; and we should receive, and do for them, by means of these Societies, as we, in like circumstances, would be done by. The general societies must also be the receiving as well as distributing societies; and, by means of correspondence with the auxiliaries, kept fully and constantly informed as to their prospects and wants, and the number they can accommodate. They must welcome the Immigrant upon his first arrival, direct him to suitable boarding houses, so as to keep him out of the hands of the harpies, who make a nefarious livelihood by cheating and swindling him in every possible way; or they must attend to his immediate shipment to his place of final destination, so that by preconcerted plans of action, he may be forwarded from Society to Society, with speed, certainty and safety, until he is placed in a situation where his own labor will produce him an ample support.

The formation of the Societies may be accomplished something after this manner.

Constitution of a General Society.

The object of this Society shall be to aid, instruct, and protect Emigrants, from the old to the new world, during their transit to their destined abodes: to proffer them sympathy, and provide for them needful outfit: to protect, provide for, and instruct them

during their passage across the ocean, to welcome them on their arrival, and procure for them such situations, employments, and above all, such civil, moral and spiritual instruction as becomes a great, a free, a magnanimous and a Christian people to render to afflicted brethren, who have perilled their all to seek a residence in a land which they have been led to regard as particularly "the asylum of the oppressed," and "the home of the free and the brave;" and, if we would deserve this noble reputation among the nations of the earth, we deem that common humanity and philanthropy, to say nothing of self-protection, patriotism and Christianity, can demand nothing less at our hands.

ART. 1.—This Society shall be called the _____ Society, for promoting the interests of those coming from foreign lands to settle among the inhabitants of the United States of America.

ART. 2.—This Society shall consist of all those friends of humanity, and of our common country, who may choose to combine their influence for the purpose of advancing this interesting object.

ART. 3.—The means to be used to promote this end, are the formation of similar Societies, and other means calculated to further the intentions of this Society.

ART. 4.—This Society shall annually elect a Board of Directors, consisting of a President, five Vice-Pre-

sidents, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, and at least twenty Managers, eight of whom shall constitute a quorum.

ART. 5.—Said Board of Directors shall annually elect an Executive Committee, to consist of not less than five nor more than nine members, to conduct the business of the Society, and make an annual report of their doings. The Board shall have power to fill vacancies, which may occur in the list of officers, or in the Executive Committee.

ART. 6.—Any person may become a member of this Society by contributing to its funds.

ART. 7.—Any Society formed for the promotion of the objects of this Society may become Auxiliary hereto by sending to the Corresponding Secretary of this Society a copy of its Constitution and annual reports.

ART. 8.—The officers of such Societies shall be ex-officio Directors, and the members of each Auxiliary Society shall be recognised as members of the Parent Society, and shall be entitled to deliberate and vote in the transaction of its concerns.

ART. 9.—The Society shall hold its annual meeting at _____ on the first Monday of January next, at _____ o'clock, and no alteration shall be made to this Constitution except at an annual meeting, and by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

Modifications may of course be made, as they may be found necessary to adopt the above form to different places and circumstances.

These Societies, having been formed, we shall be fully prepared to receive Immigrants. Then LET THEM COME, and be scattered over our beautiful prairies, into every neighborhood, to help plough and plant our fields, reap and gather our abundant crops, fill our school houses, and learn the art of self-government; and soon, with us, assist in guiding the helm of State, to pay our taxes, and to beautify and render more valuable *our* lands and *their* lands. Now, they often remain by thousands and tens of thousands in our large cities, till they spend enough to buy for each family forty acres of land; and afterwards, either accidentally find their way into the interior, or enter the Alms Houses, or else stroll about, contaminating and being contaminated, physically and morally becoming a curse rather than a blessing to our nation. The reverse of this will be the case should these Societies be brought into successful operation. And where is that city or port at which these Immigrants first disembark upon our shores, that is so blind as not to see that it would be their *interest*, as it is their duty, to aid in sending them, forthwith, where there is "bread enough and to spare" to be had in return for the daily labor, ready to be rendered by this needy and unfortunate class; yes, and land too, cheap and of excellent quality. It may be necessary for each city to have an ordinance in its municipal regulations, requiring *every* man to have some useful employment. He that will not work, should

not eat. By this means, as soon as the Immigrant lands, it is ascertained whether it is his intention to stay and work in the city; if not, then give his name to a Benevolent Society, formed to look after the interests of these very men, and have him immediately removed into that part of the country where he wishes to settle. Be kind to them—are they paupers from the old world? Yet, they have, nevertheless, souls to save, as much as if the covetous, haughty, and cruel, whom they have left, had not cast them off to perish. And why should we not help the starving ones here, as well as send to Ireland and help them there? Have them dispersed through the country where they can work, feed, clothe and educate them. No matter whether they are Catholic or Protestant, they are all God's children, whom he has sent among us to prove our sincerity in wishing all men happy and holy, and our benevolence, to see whether we will exhibit love to him in taking care of his poor. If they have money, good health, morals and industrious habits, they will do us good. Take care of them all, form these Societies as we have suggested, and put them into efficient operation, and even the poorest of them may be made, at once, a blessing to us, and happy themselves.

In aiding Immigrants from the place of their landing, to the places of their future homes, gifts may be made outright to them, or loans advanced, to be refunded by those Societies to whom they may be consigned, *whenever* it may be earned for that purpose,

evidence of the amount being furnished to the Societies by way-bills. These sums may be earned on our public works, in the employ of private individuals, or the Societies may hold mortgages for the benefit of those who have had such aid. Boats and rail cars, at the East, South and North, may be chartered to send them on, by the mass, rather than as individuals. They also can furnish means, if need be; hence the necessity of the Eastern, Northern, and Southern Societies to aid the Western ones. There will be no lack of openings for these foreigners when the system is thoroughly arranged. Each Society will then vie with its sister Societies for the profit and the honor.

A book of entry should be kept, by every Secretary or General Agent in each district where there is a Society, for the purpose of recording the names of those wishing to hire laborers, with the *kind* of help needed; so also of those who have lands and tenements to let; those who have lands to sell, with the prices, and descriptions, locations, &c.; and an office constantly open, so that Immigrants can be directed accordingly. It may be well in some instances for Societies, or benevolent individuals, to buy large tracts of land, when ordered so to do, for any particular immigrating class, they being the best judges, and probably negociators, charging nothing, in such cases, but the actual expense of such purchases. We have been thus particular in order to avoid, if possible, the *necessity*, and *expense* of sending agents

through the country, to arouse attention, and exhibit the manner in which these Societies may be constituted.

Each Society should have in its employ at the ports a foreigner, who shall be able to greet his countrymen on their arrival here, secure their confidence, give to them books and tracts, and lead them to the Society organised for their benefit. In this way every foreigner, at his landing, will find a friend who cares for him, and will do all in his power to render him comfortable and happy.

We have given, on a previous page, a part of the Report of the GERMAN IMMIGRANT SOCIETY of New-York, and we will now give a further extract from it, showing what has been done by an association similar to those we have recommended above. After giving the number of those that had arrived, the Report goes on to say; "Most of them have gone West to engage in agricultural pursuits; among them have been fewer mechanics than usual, and most of *them*, also have gone West. Many of them have, however, caught the fever in the West, and have returned to the city to be supported by the aid of the Society. Through the agency of the Society there have found employment—day laborers and laborers on railroads 2,233, female domestics 677, mechanics apprentices 73, female laborers 113, stone-cutters 66, bakers 58, masons 46, joiners 39, weavers 32, tailors 14, shoemakers 14, locksmiths 12, gardeners 12, smiths and other mechanics 54, total 3,436 persons; besides whom, 423 immigrants

have been placed in New Jersey, in all 3,859." The Report adds—"The Society has otherwise been of service to an unusual number of Immigrants, and its sphere of usefulness is constantly increasing." The above was received after all our matter was collected, and plan digested, and is the first we have heard of a Society which is very *specific* or systematic in its operations. At first view, it might *appear* to supercede these remarks, but, whatever be the professed, or practical character of this New-York Society, or Quebec operations, or others in behalf of Immigrants, for there are already local plans and operations in some of our ports, the fact that their efforts have not produced *Auxiliary* Societies, in every state and county where Immigrants wish to settle, in any considerable number, is evidence conclusive that they do not cover the ground contemplated in these remarks. These Societies, as far as they go, doubtless operate well, but they should have had Auxiliaries in all the West to which they might consign their Immigrants, and then they would not be troubled with the return of "many," if *any*, to receive "further benefactions" from the same source. Improvements may doubtless be made in their plan of operations so as to answer all practical purposes; or they may be made auxiliary to a more general and comprehensive one, as above described.

The way Prepared.

It is wonderful to see what God has been, and is now doing, to prepare the way for just such a state of things among the nations of the earth as is now disclosing itself. *First.* He has kept the fairest, and most easily cultivated parts of our land, and the world, seemingly for this very emergency. *Second.* He has caused railroads and canals to be constructed, and boats and cars built, so that the moment Immigrants land on our shores, they can, with little expense, and as it were on the wings of the wind, be sent to any portion of our country. By another season they may come into the interior of Illinois, by means of the Illinois and Michigan canal, and the railroad from the Illinois river to Springfield. *Third.* The prices of our soil are within the ability of every man of health, industry and economy, though he has little or no pecuniary means. Instantaneous intelligence can be circulated by electricity, to all parts of the union. *Fourth.* Our country is awaking to the importance of Common School Education for all, old or young, rich or poor, and in this respect we are ready for the coming of the millions.

No one can conceive, until he has seen them with his own eyes, of the splendid BEAUTY OF THE PRAIRIES, and we do not know that we can do better, at

this time, than to give a description of the effects they produced upon us at first sight, which we published last year, as editorial, in a western periodical.

A TRIP THROUGH THE GRAND PRAIRIES OF INDIANA AND ILLINOIS—ROOM FOR THE MILLIONS.—During the last three weeks we have been viewing, with great admiration, the almost illimitable prairies, luxuriant, grand and beautiful beyond description; ready to receive the millions of Immigrants pouring into the West from all parts of the world. Nothing east of the Mississippi, we are sure, offers greater inducements to those seeking a new home, than the prairies of western Indiana, and central and western Illinois. The soil is deep and rich, well adapted to grain and grass. Thousands of acres may now be seen from one point, already harvested, or over which wave the golden ears, waiting for the sickle. There, too, like clouds in the distance, luxuriating upon the native grasses, are numerous herds of cattle, which, but for the yellow fly, most numerous and annoying during the hot days of July and August, could not be better and more acceptably served from pasturages covered with the best of English forage. We are speaking of the GRAND PRAIRIES. Here every thing appears to be on the grandest scale. Where there is grass, it surpasses most other prairies. Where there are corn, wheat, oats, hemp, flax, &c. they are of mammoth growth. So also of the weeds. The uncultivated lands, though thickly covered with grass, have also a

large growth of *flowers*, from one to eight feet in height, as endless in variety as they are inimitably surpassing in beauty and elegance. Indeed, this vast field of wild and uncultivated nature, is but one unbroken and beautifully enchanting flower-garden. As we gazed upon it we could but think, in silent sadness, how,

“ Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
“ And waste its sweetness on the desert air.”

Like the starry heavens, these gently undulating hills and valleys do not, through the spring and summer months, exhibit the same appearance, which, if they did, satiety would be unknown where such a variety of splendid excellencies exist as no human limner can imitate, much less surpass, or artist design. Nor is there a general bloom, as nature begins to break forth into singing, after a night of decay and dreariness, and then a cessation till spring returns again. No, but with every changing moon, we might almost say, this garden appears in a new and beautiful dress, as if to excel the one worn before, in all that can delight, or fragrate the senses.

As in many of the unsettled portions of our country, there is a want of SPRINGS, BROOKS, RIVERS AND LAKES. Still this deficiency is more easily supplied than in most places where it is necessary to dig for water. By this means a great abundance, and that which is usually wholesome and good, it is said, may always be obtained. The CLIMATE is congenial to most

constitutions from a northern latitude. The air is salubrious, invigorating, and free from most of the impurities of a fertile timbered country. During the twelve or fifteen days of our absence, when the thermometer in the villages and timbered lands was ranging from 97 to 108, as we were informed; and when in those places ourself and sturdy horse were hot almost to suffocation, we were enabled to travel the open country comparatively cool and comfortable. Perhaps there is no day in the year when it can be said, with truth, that the WINDS there are still. Though they are so welcome and refreshing in summer, it cannot be denied that, oftentimes in other seasons they are uncomfortable and destructive. But for this there is at least a partial, if not a sovereign remedy. The time is not distant when the groves of timber, now being planted here and there, as the inhabitants increase, will become so numerous and contiguous to each other as to divest them of much of their force, and all of their terrors and evil consequences. It need not be said that these Paradisiacal gardens are long to remain unbroken by the hand of the husbandman, that here, for centuries yet to come, will be heard the howling blast, the croaking of the land crane, and the growl of the wolf; that the thunder and the lightning, and the torrents of rain, more terribly sublime here, perhaps, than in all the world besides, the ocean only excepted, are to be witnessed alone by irrational beings, that to these voices, and

works of Deity, there is to be no answering echo, no suitable and reverential response from hearts attuned to notes of praise and thanksgiving to Him who "rides upon the storm and has his footsteps in the sea." But, in less than a third of a century one may from some gilded spire, upon some of these vantage grounds, gaze upon one of the most beautiful, wealthy, independent, refined and influential parts of the habitable globe, and count a hundred other spires, ornamenting public edifices, from whence ascends devout adoration to the beneficent benefactor, the author of all these mercies. There he may hear "the Church going bell," with the proclamation,

"The living to the Church I call,
"While to the grave I summon all."

Yes, this beautiful country will be settled, and settled soon. It is to be converted into orchards, and groves, and fields of grain; into districts, towns, villages and cities. *Send on then, the millions,* from the North, South and East. Here let the fallow ground be upturned. Here sow the locust, for fencing; plant the cotton and other trees for lumber; open a furrow around every field, where you would fix your fences; and into it drop, as you would corn, at suitable distances, the butternut, all kinds of walnut, the crab-apple and every other nut and seed whose tree would be either useful or ornamental; plant also your sugar orchards and timber for fuel *in the very place most convenient for the farm.* Make your vegetable gar-

dens, your fruit yards, your lawns, parks, door yards, *each and all of them*, just where they should be. Forget not to plant a grove of trees about your farm and out-buildings, in your pastures, and occasionally one in your mead and plough fields. And strangers will find a great convenience, if the occupants do not, in having the swine's place far from the house and horse barn, and them *kept* in their place; and the dogs kept out of the parlors and sleeping rooms, especially in the season when vermin are annoying. And the ladies, if they please, may look well to their bedsteads, that the weary traveller shall not find his *night labor* more exhausting, disagreeable, and to be dreaded, than that of the day. But *that* will be a different time from *this*, we hope, in these respects at least. O how grateful to man, and welcome to the fattening, as well as the laboring animal, are these beautiful groves, these oases of the prairies. And who is so young or infirm as to be unable to transplant a shrub or a tree, or sow a seed, and thereby contribute something to this beauty, wealth and comfort? Who so inert and sluggish that they *will not*? Whose mind so dark and beclouded that they *cannot* if they would! It should ever be remembered by all, in every grade of society, especially in prairie countries, that whoever plants a wholesome tree, or beautiful and useful shrub, is a benefactor to the race, and leaves an honorable monument to his praise.

By permission we are happy to add the opinion of

a gentleman, Registrar of the government land office in this district, long an influential and respected resident of this state, who is much better qualified to judge of the soil and advantages of this country than we are.

Land Office, Springfield, Illinois, April 25, 1848.

HARMON KINGSBURY,

Sir,—You expressed a desire that I should give you my opinion of Illinois, as a country. In so doing I might very properly enter an almost boundless field, whether to give scope to imagination in the endless variety of its natural beauties, or more soberly content myself with tracing out, with the fidelity of truth, its agricultural capacity, (which I regard as the basis of its future wealth and population,) or, with statistical exactness, show and prove its future greatness and destiny in all its products and resources.

This would be a very pleasing, and might, in many respects, be a very useful task. But for the present I must waive any wish felt upon those branches of the subject, and confine myself with brevity to a few general observations. I shall not inquire how such a continuous body of alluvial level, or table upland, (for the prairies are our highlands,) could have been formed, with any design of solving the problem, but shall leave it to geologists and naturalists, wiser than myself in the arcana of nature. But in respect to facts, unincumbered with recondite causes and perplexing theories, I can speak with plainness and cer-

tainty. Though much has been said and written upon the beauty of the prairies of Illinois, I believe in truth and candor, the one half has never been told. The facility with which farms are made, and the greater ease with which they are cultivated, when made; together with the almost incredible amount of products from the same labor bestowed upon other lands, very fitly entitles it to be denominated the granary of America.

We have heard of the Delta of the Ganges, the Nile, and the fertility of Egypt; the Mississippi, and all the fat lands lying between the Alleghanies and the Stony Mountains; of Kentucky, Tennessee, and all the Western States; through most or all of which I have travelled; yet I am thoroughly persuaded that in no part of the earth can such a body of land be found as in Illinois. Yes, Sir, I have lived in Kentucky thirty-five years, have been a cultivator, and an observer of soil all my life, and pronounce the prairies of Illinois equal to the richest upland or lowland I have ever seen in any state.

It is by far the pleasantest *farming* country I have ever seen. There is no obstruction to the plough, neither grub, nor stump, nor stone; no loss of ground; but the crop is uniform and even, without any inequality. My ploughmen break in spring three and three and a half acres per day; and in seeding oats with two horse ploughs, they have put in four acres per day, and done it well. A farm of 80 acres can

be made in almost as short a time, and with much less hard labor, than would take to clear 10 acres of heavy timbered land; and when made, with good tilth, the farmer may rely with certainty upon from 60 to 80 bushels per acre of corn, I averaged last year 70.

I have known a hundred bushels raised per acre upon lands without manure; and have seen a field ploughed in spring, planted, (but never touched afterward with plough, harrow, or hoe,) produce 40 bushels per acre; to get 50 bushels with one ploughing is very common. It is true that some seasons are more inauspicious than others.

In addition to the plenteous corn yield, oats, wheat, rye, barley and buck-wheat; potatoes, both sweet and Irish, (indeed the latter cannot be excelled in any country,) hemp, flax, and tobacco grow well.

In the raising of beef, pork, mules and wool, we ought to, and can beat creation. One of my neighbors informed me that from an investment of 1,600 dollars in sheep, he would this year, (which is his fourth,) from the sale of mutton and wool, have a clear profit of upwards of 4,000 dollars, with a stock of two or three thousand sheep. And yet, my friend, this land has room for millions, although the richest, cheapest, and most desirable that millions ever dwelt upon! But, in conclusion let me say to you and to all, that even with our present population, give but a road to market, and with our surplus products we

can and will cause our state debt to vanish, like the sun the mist upon our soil. Most respectfully,

Your friend, and obedient servant,

JAMES W. BARRET.

Most of the states in which the prairies lie are free states, and those are the states to which these Immigrants will go. They abhor slavery, and they know they can never be elevated and blessed in the slave states, since free white laborers cannot rise and prosper among slave laborers. Every product of the temperate zone, for the sustenance of man or beast, may be raised on the prairies in the greatest abundance, and with less labor perhaps than any where else in the world. Corn and potatoes are dropped, and all the rest of their cultivation is done with the plough. The hoe is never used. No country offers greater inducements to the cultivator of the soil.

The INCREASE OF the POPULATION of the United States in the last ten years, has been (at the rate of) 33 per cent. Of the Eastern States $16\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the Western States 74 per cent. of the Northern States 108 per cent. It is therefore quite evident that these fine Western lands, so suited to the location of European Emigrants, which now lie as with open arms ready to receive them, are not to remain long thus unoccupied. The population of the United States doubles in 25 years, that of Great Britain in 44, that of France in 138. If this ratio of in-

crease continues our grand-children will see, as is stated by Rev. L. H. Loss, in a recent address delivered at Rockford, Illinois, "600,000,000 inhabitants clustered along the rivers, and spread over the hills and valleys, crowding the cities, and cultivating the fields of our vast territory."

The following extracts will show with what rapidity lands are being taken up at one land office alone. "GREEN BAY, LAND OFFICE.—The receipts of this office for the first four months of the present year show a handsome increase over the same time last year. The sales up to May 1st reach 46,208 acres, most in 40 acre tracts, and yielded \$57,759:48." The GREEN BAY REPUBLICAN says: "The Land Office is crowded at all hours of the day. The receipts of the past week we have heard estimated at over \$175,000! and yet it seems as if there is to be no cessation of the entering of lands." The CHICAGO TRIBUNE says, "We learn from the Green Bay Advocate, that the receipts from the 23d of August to the 14th of December, 1847, have been \$380,132:26. In the month of November, of the present year, the receipts were \$64,118:43; for the same month of 1846 \$35,220:79. Should the receipts continue in that proportion for a year, they will amount to over *one million four hundred thousand dollars*, an amount without precedent in the receipts of any land office in the United States for the same length of time."

SECTION III.

Objections.

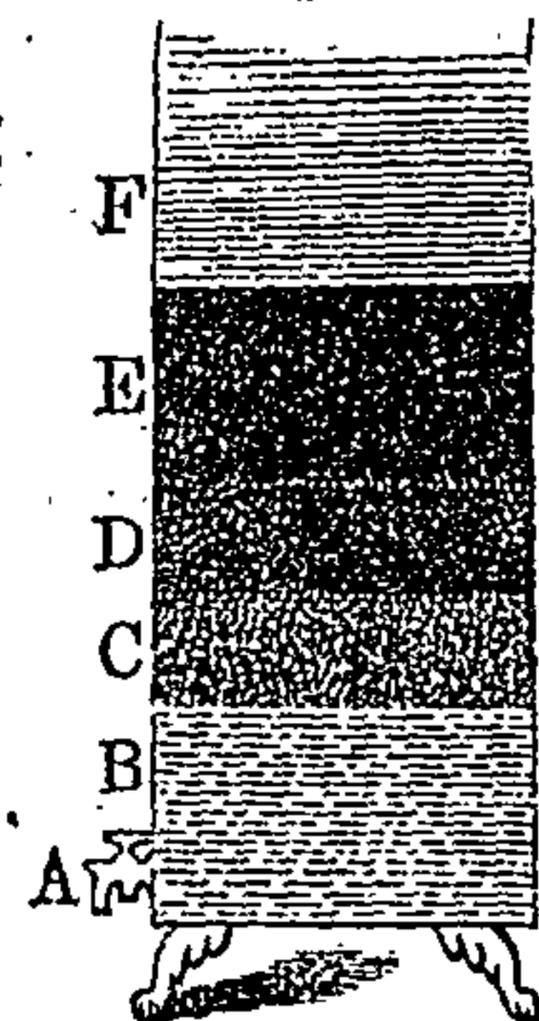
We will now anticipate, and answer some objections that may be urged against the new states and territories, especially the prairie part of them. First.

“IT IS UNHEALTHY.”

So were the alluvial lands of the Connecticut, the Housatonic and the Hudson in their native state; and also the rich and fertile soil of Western New-York and Ohio. There was a time when sickness was as prevalent in those localities as it is, or rather has been, in any part of the West. All new settlements, where the soil is deep and rich, and is fresh broken, over a large extent, will always be unhealthy. Most of the sickness prevalent in these countries may be prevented, however, by suitable care, and the use of pure water. “But,” Second, “pure water is not to be had.” It may be had as pure as in any country that abounds in limestone and minerals. Such water may be found in our streams and sloughs; and may in sufficient quantities for family or stock purposes, be obtained on every farm by digging, at a depth of from six to twenty feet. But what is better than all, and *should be provided* for the use of every family,

is RAIN WATER, filtered through charcoal and sand into a large cistern, set deep into the ground, made of brick and suitable cement, a plan of which is described on page 77. "Those who would avoid that class of diseases which are produced and aggravated by impure water, should make it their first object, after having obtained a shelter from the weather, to construct a large, deep cistern, and depend on the clouds for rain water; when pure it is the most pleasant and wholesome that can be obtained. This is the main dependence of the Southern States. It may very easily be purified from the dirt of the roof and all unpleasant flavor, so as to appear and taste very much like New-England spring water. To secure such water the cistern may be partitioned from side to side, and a filter of sand and charcoal constructed, so that the water must pass through it. The water from the roof would enter on one side of the partition and be drawn from the other for use. Some would prefer to make a filter of a thin hogshead, and set it beside the cistern, and let the water run from the roof into the filter and thence into the cistern. But those who wish to economize can make A FILTER of a cask in shape similar to a common churn; or they may have two casks, one above the other, the top one being the filter, and the bottom the reservoir. The latter is the most convenient, as it affords opportunity for occasionally washing the reservoir. We give a cut of the former. If constructed

of a single cask, like the cut, it should be made of soft wood and charred inside, by burning shavings in it, which will prevent the reservoir from becoming musty.



The letter A indicates the faucet.

The letter B the reservoir.

The letter C the gravel.

The letter D the sand.

The letter E the charcoal. Between the reservoir, and the gravel is a false head filled with small holes. Wash the gravel and sand thoroughly from dirt before placing it in the filter. Gather the charcoal from your fire-place or stove, pour water on it till thoroughly

cleansed from the ashes, then pulverize it and place it on the sand. Put flat stones on the charcoal. Charcoal burned in a coal-pit is not fit unless re-burned. Some prefer to make alternate layers of charcoal and sand. By all means drink rain water, even if you have to use it without filtering. They who have it in their power to obtain this kind of drink are bound by every consideration of health to do so. The expense may look forbidding, but every person who does it will far more than save the amount in physicians bills. If ice is to be obtained they may have their drink as cool in warm weather as they please."

CISTERNS set deep in the ground, upon this or a similar plan, holding from 60 to 70 barrels, are con-

structed for about 30 dollars, the builder furnishing the materials.

“But sickness did not prevail in the early settlement of New-England, as it often does at the West.” This is doubtful in the minds of some, but New-England had not such a soil; such luxuriant growths of grass and herbage to spring up and decay every year as we have at the West. The first settlers there were sparsely scattered, began on a small scale and progressed slowly, consequently the decay of vegetation, and the decomposition of the earth was very gradual. It is not so at the West. Thousands, and tens of thousands of acres, of dense forests are being felled every year in a single county. Tens of thousands of acres of the prairie lands are being broken in all parts of the West every year. Immigrants flock thither in great numbers, and endure privations in consequence of it, which impair health. It is not very uncommon here to see a single farmer with his 500 or a 1000 acres of corn, yielding from 60 to 80 bushels per acre, and so of other grains and products. This must require great effort, and often produces sickness, others occupying from 60 to 200 acres of land, with temperate, careful, provident and moral habits, have rarely an occasion to call for a physician. Others again are too indolent and careless, filthy and immoral, to enjoy health anywhere. We give below an extract from a friend, many years a resident of this section of the country.

“I do not agree that the sickness in the West is greater, or indeed anywhere equal to the sickness in the early settlement of New-England. No mortality anywhere in the West, even when the Asiatic Cholera was here, in addition to all our other diseases, has ever equalled the mortality of the Immigrants in the May Flower itself. There is at least no proof that the sickness in the West is one half as great as it was in the first settlement of New-England. I have for fifteen years compared the annual mortality of several western towns, as for example this town, (Jacksonville, Illinois,) with that of several country towns in Connecticut and Massachusetts, with which I am acquainted, and from which I receive yearly reports. The result is, that the yearly mortality there, even now greatly surpasses the yearly mortality here, in proportion to the number of inhabitants. The yearly mortality of many towns in New-England, which fancy themselves peculiarly healthy, would for the ten past years surpass the yearly mortality of Jacksonville, I am persuaded, in the ratio of two to one. True, we have more ‘agues’ here, which frighten them, but which *we* set down for little or nothing; and *they* have more colds, coughs, &c. which *they* set down in the same way. Our agues and fevers generally end in nothing but sharp noses and lean faces, and long bills for quinine; but these ‘colds’ end in consumption, or death, far more frequently than either our agues or our fevers. Almost all writers

give a very exaggerated idea of the *mortal* sickness of this country."

" F U E L

is scarce." So it is, and will be for a few years ; but soon COAL, which is very abundant in the most of prairie regions, may be had with little expense, especially near the canals, rivers and railroads. Besides, every prairie farmer may soon raise his own fuel. Immediately after the prairie sward is broken, forest trees begin to grow. WINGED SEEDS alone would soon produce the quantity, (for no country in the temperate zone can send forth a more rapid and luxuriant growth of all kinds of forest and fruit trees than this,) though not of all the varieties desirable and necessary. But other seeds can easily be sown and planted, in such locations too, as may be most convenient and ornamental, to answer every purpose. The LONBARDY POPLAR will advance to a great height and considerable size in three or four years, and may, in the first place, serve both for ornament and fuel. The COTTON-WOOD will also, as soon, be ready for that purpose unless destroyed by cattle or prairie fires. The YELLOW LOCUSTS are also of quick growth, and very natural to this soil. Every farmer should at once sow a few acres to seed, for the purpose of ornament, fuel and fencing. Other kinds of Locusts may be produced in the same way, as also almost all

kinds of forest trees. MAPLE ORCHARDS are obtained by the same means, and should not be neglected. The NUTS, in great quantities; the black walnut, butternut, hickory nut, beech nut, and of all other useful and ornamental trees, should be gathered and planted in groves or by fences, small yards, and in lanes, thus adding to the health, comfort, value and beauty of the farm. All this may be done with very little expense, by first ploughing a furrow, then dropping the nut, at suitable distances, then a back furrow covers them, which is all that may be necessary, except to keep cattle from destroying them. This will add to the quantity of fuel, and no farmer should neglect it. Every kind of valuable and beautiful shrubbery should also be set around one's dwelling, to refine the taste, elevate the mind, purify the atmosphere, and incite to cleanliness and order. More than all, let no farmer forget or neglect a *single year* to sow and plant all kinds of fruit-trees, natural to the climate and soil, especially apple, pear, peach, cherry, plumb, quince, currant, &c. &c. of the best quality. Who, that has ever had an orchard of these kinds of fruit, does not know its advantages in fuel, as well as in fruit the most wholesome and nutritious? It is said that five ACRES planted to PEACH TREES thickly set, as should also be all our trees on prairies, will in three years, besides the great abundance of fruit furnished, produce fuel enough to supply any economical family during their natural lives,

and this not at all to the detriment of the orchard, and we have no doubt of the fact. It is also said that from one acre planted or sown to sunflowers, fuel enough may be obtained to supply one stove during a whole year. Perhaps this may be so, for the stalk grows to a mammoth size and height, producing an almost unprecedented quantity of seed, which, by the following extract it would seem is to be extensively cultivated for its various other qualities, any one of which would add much to the wealth of the producer.

“NEWLY DISCOVERED USE OF THE SUNFLOWER. Those most experienced in the cultivation of this plant, are sanguine that with a proper soil and proper cultivation, *it is more profitable than wheat or corn.* The seeds are more oleaginous than those of the flax plant, and combine the qualities for table use of the best olive oil, for burning of the best sperm, without its smoke; and for painting it is said by painters who have used it, to be superior to linseed and it is more rapid in drying, equally easy in spreading, and with a much denser coat. Prepared and eaten as artichokes, the young caps of this plant are very esculent and pleasing to the palate; the stalks are an excellent substitute for hemp or flax, and for bee pasturage it is equal to any plant, yielding from its luscious and numerous nectaries, an abundance of the best and most palatable honey. A writer in one of our agricultural exchanges says, that on suitable

soil, with proper cultivation, it will yield on an average from eighty to one hundred bushels of seed to the acre. From five to seven quarts of oil are calculated on per bushel. If this is not over-estimating its productiveness, and it can be raised as cheaply as wheat or Indian corn, ordinarily considered the most expensive crops cultivated, the sunflower must be a very profitable production. We have heretofore cultivated it on a small scale, usually in vacant spots, by the fences and in places where the cultivation of other vegetables was ineligible, and so far as experience goes, it corroborates the above assertions. We find that the green leaves are very excellent fodder for cows, especially when the feed in our pastures gets low in seasons of scarcity and drought. We generally commence plucking them in July, taking the lower leaves first, and feeding them out at night; or, if the scarcity of feed is great, in the morning before turning them from their yards. We have sometimes given them corn-toppings, and the leaves of the sunflower at the same time, and have found that the latter are invariably preferred. The seed of the sunflower is a most desirable seed for poultry, its highly oleaginous nature wholly superceding the necessity of animal food."

CORN-STALKS and HUSKS may be used for kindling, and the COBS for fuel. Whole families can, and do now supply their stoves almost exclusively from the cobs of their stock yards. Hence we may see that

the objection, as to scarcity of fuel, like many others, is merely ideal, "necessity, the mother of invention" having pointed to various profitable and never-failing substitutes.

"Building materials

are scarce." True, so far as respects materials of wood. Every place has its disadvantages. But there are veins of clay in sufficient number, and of suitable quality to supply GOOD BRICK for all conceivable purposes of walling and building. Timber and wood also may be had on all the prairies, but not ready at hand, nor so cheap as on timbered lands. UNBURNT bricks have been highly recommended, as well as gravel or mud mixed with prairie grass or straw, and we doubt not may be comparatively both cheap and durable; a kind of cement, used in some parts of the South, being spread for floors, which becomes hard and dry. PLANKS or slabs make a temporary building, which answers a very good purpose. It is extremely desirable that some further experiments should be made in order to furnish a cheaper, more convenient, comfortable, and if practicable, *portable* "shanty" or dwelling for the use of the Immigrant on his first arrival. Could not such an one be constructed, the posts and ribs only being of wood, and the floors of cement, of sheet-iron, lead or tin, or India rubber?

The following describes one manner in which the

unburnt brick may be used. It is from the BUFFALO COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER. "A material new, to us, is used in the erection, by Dr. Theller, of a dwelling house and 'maison de santé' for homœopathic treatment. It is near the new fort. This is the article recommended by Ellsworth, Commissioner of Patents, for cheap building on the prairies and elsewhere. It consists of large bricks dried in the sun only. They are in this instance 19 inches long, 12 wide, and 8 in thickness. Pure, strong clay, without any mixture of sand or gravel, is the best for this purpose. This is mixed with straw, wild hay, or some such material. After drying it is sometimes necessary to fill up the cracks by pouring over them a thin composition of sand, lime and mortar. A foundation of 'concrete,' or something capable of protecting the bricks from damp is necessary. A projecting roof should also be used for the same reason. Common mortar is used to cement the bricks together, and a covering of water-proof cement or 'rough cast' gives a finish to the appearance and protection of the building. Durability, cheapness, warmth in winter, and coolness in summer, are the alleged advantages of this material. We hear that it is a French invention, and is much used near Lyons, also that it travelled from France through Lower Canada, then to the upper Province, and so reached us. Mr. Dwyer, architect, superintends the matter."

We have recently seen buildings composed of

gravel and mortar, or cement, which appeared to answer a valuable purpose.*

* We have recently examined specimens of BLAKE'S FIRE-PROOF PAINT, which, whether spread on wood or canvass, may be found of value in the construction of prairie habitations. A few extracts from an advertisement, and other sources, will be found below.

"This article was discovered four years since in Sharon, Medina county, Ohio. * * The analysis of Dr. Chilton, of New-York city, shows it to be one of the best fire-proofs that can be used. He found it to contain the following substances.

Magnesia,	. . . . .	25	per cent.
Alumina,	. . . . .	20	" "
Silex,	. . . . .	20	" "
Black oxide of Iron,		10	" "
Lime,	. . . . .	10	" "
Carbon,	. . . . .	5	" "

* * It has been found excellent for the following uses:— for covering roofs, carriage painting, fire-proof safes, for cement to put in joints of air-tight stoves, decks of steamboats, fences, &c. where black paint is used. It is sold at \$3 per 100 pounds, the which will cover a building 30 by 40. The cost of the oil is about the same."—BLAKE. * * "It is of the color of indigo, is impervious both to water and fire, and admits of the finest polish. When reduced to powder and mixed with linseed oil, it has the appearance of black paint." * *

Washington Union.

"It may be applied to shingles already laid on, to boards, to flooring, to paper or canvass. There are few uses in connection with building purposes, to which it may not be applied to advantage." *Rochester Gazette.* "When taken from the

“Fencing is scarce.”

For fencing on the prairies recourse must be had to a considerable extent, to LIVE FENCES, which may be grown in a short time, and at comparatively small

mine it has about the consistence of cold tallow, but an exposure to the air, ten or twelve days, turns it to stone.”—*Blake.*

Other mines, supposed to be similar, have already been found in the same neighborhood. We have been thus specific, not knowing that the same material may not abound in many other parts of this country. Why could not this material be spread on coarse hemp canvass, easily raised and manufactured on our prairies, and then stretched around poles or a rack, strong enough to withstand the wind? Or, construct the sides of unburnt brick, or mud and wild hay, which should always be covered within and without, as also the ground for a floor, with a water and air-tight cement, which is used for cisterns, perhaps, and the roofs only with the canvass, spread or painted with this article, which, in a few days becomes hard, and looks like the finest slate.

Gutta Percha.

We have been much interested in an interview with S. T. Armstrong, Esq. (at his office, No. 139 William-street, New-York,) and in examining the several articles, manufactured by the AMERICAN GUTTA PERCHA COMPANY. A hasty computation was there made of the expense of the material some three quarters of a yard wide, and of suitable thickness for a prairie “Shanty,” sixteen feet square, and eight high, raised roof and lower floor included, which was about \$50. This article or cloth can be joined together by its own adhesiveness, and the use of a heated iron, making a room air-tight if desirable, and impervious to damps or winds. The supply of the article will soon be

expense, provided the Legislature will, during the process, protect the prairie farmer from the ravages of prairie fires, and from foreign herds of cattle, horses and hogs, which we doubt not would be greatly

so increased as to reduce the price more than one half. Experiments are now being made in New-York with a view of this application of the material, to reduce the expense by the addition of other substances, not injurious to that already used. Should it be found that dwellings can be built in this way, combining cheapness, durability, portability, facility of construction, and the value of the article, (unimpaired by time or use,) after it should no longer be needed for this purpose, no pen can describe the immense value it will be to the prairie farmer, on his arrival at his new home. Great loss of health and life are often experienced by those who dwell in damp, open and poorly constructed houses, and care should be taken to shut out all damps from *beneath and around*, as there usually is from above. The shanty thus constructed should be lighted, heated and ventilated in a way easy, but yet to be devised. This material, quite translucent, must also be stretched on a rack as suggested above, which need not usually occupy, in arranging all the fixtures, more than a week or so. This material is also put to many other valuable purposes.

Who will experiment upon these and other various substances, and give to Immigrants a cheap, comfortable and quickly constructed habitation, in all those countries where lumber and timber are scarce? And why not organize BUILDING SOCIETIES upon some plan similar to the following, that all who go to the West, whether poor or rich, may have a home on their arrival? This would remove one of the greatest objections to the settlement of a new country, especially a woodless one.

for the interest of the states in which such lands lie, as well as of the owners ; and for this purpose an ef-

“ Among other various means devised for the mutual benefit of mankind, building societies have been organized in quite large numbers. Already over one thousand are in existence. It is estimated that there are three hundred thousand members, and that six millions pounds sterling have been invested, and the members are bound for the farther payment of between thirty and forty millions of pounds within the next ten years. It would seem from these statistics, as returned to Parliament, that building societies are becoming an important interest in the political economy of that country. If well managed, they may in time take the place of Savings Banks, offering as they do double interest to the lender of money, with the best security known—real estate.

“ The great objects of these societies is to furnish a dwelling to every member who is not able to purchase one. A man pays to the building society annually for ten years, an amount of money very little exceeding the rent he would have to pay a landlord, and in return the society gives him a house, which becomes his property at the end of the ten years. The building society confers an equal benefit upon the member who chooses to invest a sum of money, and at the end of ten years, whatever he has invested has increased in the same ratio with the payments of the member who has obtained a dwelling. The first aim in such societies should be to obtain good managers and directors, who will perform their duties faithfully.

“ These societies might be organized with profit and the conferring of much good in this country. It would be a system far better than that of rentals, particularly in our cities.”—*Buff. Com.*

fort is soon to be made in some of the states. The names of the different varieties of plants, heretofore used in this and some other countries for hedges, together with the opinions of gentlemen whose experience and observation entitle them to confidence and credit, will be found below. Many of the plants named we have seen cultivated into hedges, the OSAGE ORANGE being of that number, and we hesitate not to say, that wherever it may be found capable of acclimation, so as not to winter-kill, as we have sanguine hopes will extensively be the case, it will far surpass all other kinds of live fence we have ever seen in every conceivable respect. 1. Its tenacity of life is scarcely equalled. 2. It stands stiff, like iron; it *may* be *bent*, but not often broken. 3. Its branches, properly clipped, become in time so closely intertwined as to be impassable not only by flocks and herds, but by domestic fowls, or we were about to say, common birds. 4. It has a sharp thorn over every leaf, which may secure it from the browsing of cattle, even when just ready to be set in the hedge, certainly it will when two or three years of age. 5. The prairie fires will not *destroy* it, nor often injure it. 6. It does not spread into the fields, but keeps its own place, growing stronger and thicker. 7. It is not rendered less, but more valuable by age. 8. It is quite ornamental. 9. It bears a beautiful large apple of the orange color, fit only, perhaps, for cattle or preserves. 10. It may be a valuable and use-

ful protection against high winds, and hot suns. around door yards, out-houses, barns, sheds, sheep-folds, orchards, gardens, &c. 11. No thief, or rogue can climb over or crawl through it. 12. Sheep, in an enclosure made of it, would be safe from dogs and wolves. All this, and much more, *we have heard said* in favor of this wonderful plant. It is, we believe, a native of Texas.

The following is taken from the CINCINNATI GAZETTE.—“The introduction of live fences will soon become an interesting feature in western agriculture. While stone is too scarce to be thought of, and wood none too abundant, it is obvious that the inclosing of land, and especially large districts, must eventually be done by hedges of locust, osage orange, buck-thorn, hornbeam, or some other plants adapted to our climate. The beautiful appearance given to a landscape by evergreen hedges, and their superiority to the old fashioned worm or board fence, in point of economy, in the long run, must also bring them into favor. For our western prairies they seem to be peculiarly well adapted; along the lines of canals also, where permanent fences are obliged to be maintained, there would be great advantage in planting hedges at once. The idea that when fairly established, they will never need removal, would inspire a degree of security which cannot be felt by those persons who are in the habit of patching up decayed fences, and calculating the value of a rail in resisting the depre-

dations of stock. Of the various plants that have been tried, for live fences, the OSAGE ORANGE (the *Maclura aurantacia*) stands pre-eminent. It is found growing in its native state, on the borders of the Red River in Texas, and flourishes in perfection in the Western States and as far north as Massachusetts at least. It possesses all the requisites for a hedge, being covered with thorns, and growing bushy near the ground; it also has a fine rich, glossy foliage, and bears clipping well, and its thorns soon become so hard and thick as to render a fence almost impervious to a rabbit, and cattle will not browse on them. In its native *habitat* it attains to the size of a tree of the second or third class; but in Ohio, and farther north, its altitude is very moderate, seldom rising to the height of fifteen feet. Its great merit consists in the spreading manner of its growth, the denseness of its branches, and the armature with which they are furnished. Planted in hedge rows, it would never become unmanageable on account of its size, at the same time its growth is sufficiently vigorous to make a fence in three, four, or at most five years from the seed. It may be asserted with safety, that on land of tolerable fertility, the labor and expense of perfecting a system of hedges would not be greater than to keep ordinary enclosures in good order for the time required to construct them. When completed, this heavy item in every farmer's account would thenceforth be expunged. The Osage Orange is readily rais-

ed from the seed: unlike the various kinds of thorn, the seeds vegetate with certainty in two or three weeks after planting; under tolerable care the seedlings will grow two feet or more in height the first season, after which they are fit to be removed from the nursery rows to the place designed for the hedge. The best way to start a hedge of this plant is to procure some of the seeds, of which about 7,000 are comprised in a quart, scald them in water near the boiling point, and plant them in nursery beds, in good soil, and keep down the weeds the first year. In transplanting, the plants should be set about twelve inches apart; these facts will enable any person to form a correct judgment of the number necessary to plant in any given length of hedge. The seed should be sown early in the spring, and if not preferred to sow as above, in a nursery bed, to be afterwards transplanted, it may be sown where the fence is wanted, by preparing the ground, and using a garden line to get the fence straight, covering the seed lightly with fine earth. When the plants are up, they must be kept clean and well hoed, and in the fall they should be headed down to within two or three inches of the ground."

PROFESSOR TURNER'S LETTER.

Jacksonville, March 6, 1848.

MR. KINGSBURY, Dear Sir, you wish my opinion of the Osage orange as a hedge plant. I perfectly agree with all you have said respecting its merits,

after having thoroughly tried some fifteen or twenty different species of plants for hedging, many of which will make a good and durable fence, I am fully of the opinion that the Osage orange is, if rightly treated, in cheapness, durability, beauty, efficiency and value, superior to any other plant in the known world, for all latitudes where the Isabella grape will stand the climate well, from year to year, and ripen its fruit in the open air. This is not a matter of mere theory, but of actual experiment. There are now in the valley of the Mississippi many pieces of this hedge which have been standing as an efficient fence for years against all kinds of stock, at once provoking the admiration, challenging the scrutiny, and defying the intrusion of all visitors, and travellers. To ask in such regions, "whether the Osage orange will make a hedge," would be much like asking "whether corn can be grown in the Mississippi valley." Several hundred dollars' worth of seed were carried last year to the single town of Cincinnati. The import this year has increased, and Texas was literally crowded last winter with men from all parts of the union, and even from France, in quest of the seed, which they soon bid up to two dollars per quart, on the ground. The people also in their eagerness to get out the seed, and sell it quick, boiled it in large cauldrons, and then sold the seed after taking it from the soft boiled pomace of the apples, which should be a caution to all who wish to buy seed in future, as boiled seed will

never grow. To show my confidence in its value I shall put out two or three miles on my own farm this spring. Many of my neighbors will go into it largely next spring, as I sent by a man to Texas expressly to get seed for next year, which is now received. A friend of mine asked a gentleman in Cincinnati to give him his written opinion on the value of the Osage orange, for a hedge; he refused to do it, saying that his neighbors and friends would think him a fool to be giving his certificate to certify to what all the world already knew. Unfortunately they do not as yet know it so well here as they do in Ohio. I have never lost a single plant, one year old, from cold or any other cause, in ten years in this place.

Respectfully yours, J. B. TURNER.

From what we know of the plant, and of the gentleman who writes above, from Jacksonville, we think we hazard nothing in endorsing all he says.

The correctness of the above extract, from an Ohio paper, in some "important particulars," is questioned, as we have just learned. Like most new things, its qualities are liable to be over-rated, but our confidence in it is not weakened.

We have recently seen a fence composed of GRAVEL and MORTAR, or cement, twelve inches at bottom, six at top, and five feet high, which had the appearance of durability. SOD FENCE is made in some parts of the West, but we have little confidence in it

unless supported by the roots of the live fence, planted *with* it. Good WIRE FENCES, it is said, can be made for twenty five to thirty seven and a half cents per rod. Six strands to a pannel, and one as a brace, wove in to keep the others in place. We see no reason why, if unburnt brick is valuable for building, it may not be successfully used for fencing, to some extent, around buildings and yards.

“Expense of Breaking the Prairies.”

This is trifling compared to that of chopping and clearing timber. The usual price now paid here for breaking is \$1 : 50 to \$1 : 75 per acre, including all expenses. And, in from three to five years from the first upturning of the original sod, the farm assumes the appearance of an old and long cultivated field.

“State Indebtedness.”

The Western States, in speculating times, (when money matters were easy, and few anticipated a revulsion,) like enterprising individuals, laid their plans too large, desired and undertook more than they were then in their infancy able to accomplish, which has not only impaired their credit, but for a time, at least, crippled the spirit of commendable and necessary enterprise, and left large sums for us to pay (and at a time too of most deep depression in the money mar-

ket) all over the world. But even under these circumstances we are not discouraged. Learning wisdom from the past, we are led to economise, and, with cautious steps, and firm purpose, move forward in the work of liquidation and matter of state expenditures, so as to recover, as we soon shall, the Lord prospering us, from every embarrassment. Conversing with Judge Robbins, of this place, the other day, he made the following remarks; which may, by many be considered extravagant, and calculated to lead to disappointment; nevertheless they show the feelings of many of our intelligent, enterprising and influential citizens, in relation to the future prospect and glowing hopes, for our young and rising state.

“It is supposed by many that Illinois is so deeply involved in debt that she is broken; but would an individual be considered as insolvent, or broken, who could pay all his indebtedness with the crop of a single year, or one twentieth part of his real estate? Yet Illinois is able to accomplish this. Her means of liquidating her indebtedness are inexhaustible. She has 32,000,000 of acres of land within her boundary; now take twelve millions of that for rivers, timber, wet and broken, unproductive land if you please, this will leave twenty millions as good as a bird ever flew over; such another body of land, so large and so exuberantly fertile, and contiguous to itself, cannot be found upon the globe. Now suppose one million of the twenty is sown with wheat, and the product twenty

bushels per acre, which is less than the average crop, and the price fifty cents per bushel, which is certainly low enough, and you have \$10,000,000, while her debt, exclusive of canal indebtedness, is less than \$8,000,000. Take another view of the subject. Suppose 700,000 people in the state, and that each one should raise one hog for market, weighing 200 lbs. net; and that pork should sell for only \$2 per cwt. the product would be \$2,800,000, which would discharge all her indebtedness in less than three years."

It is for the interest of the new states to make their TAXES uniform, and as low as practicable, so as not to prevent immigration: In Illinois, by the new Constitution, provision is made for a lower ratio of taxation, so that her taxes will become, if they are not now, as low as those of any of the neighboring states.*

* And when once fixed, the amount will not be increased. It is provided by a law, (which has been sanctioned by the vote of a large majority of the people,) that a tax of two and a half mills on the dollar shall be levied, the proceeds of which shall be applied specifically to the payment of *the* PRINCIPAL of the Public Debt, and it is obvious that this fixed tax, operating from year to year on the increasing value of the real and personal property of the state, will in the course of time discharge the entire debt without subjecting the people to oppressive taxation.

SECTION IV.

Inducements to action.

The legitimate operation of such Societies as we have described in another part of this work, will be to relieve the cities of their present burden in supporting so many immigrant paupers, and greatly aid immigrants, by furnishing them, most speedily, the best and cheapest homes, while at the same time it will furnish good and reliable services to the older settlers of the West, at reasonable prices; make a market for our provisions, and at once fill up our states with industrious, enterprising, economical laborers. All concerned in the effort will be benefitted. It is indeed difficult to conceive of any philanthropic plan, where good would not, as a natural result, flow to all. Further, is it not a duty we owe these foreigners thus to aid them, thereby saving them much privation, and our country the disgrace and ruin of their crimes, consequent upon their being herded together in our cities, penniless, friendless and foodless; while, if scattered through the West, over these broad prairies, and elsewhere, they may become independent and happy; and, instead of bringing disgrace and ruin to the country, become to it a blessing and support.

But to be more specific, let us see how the CITIES STAND AFFECTED by this unexampled influx of Immi-

grants. Take the city of New-York for example. The Alms-House Commissioners' Report, for October, 1847, presents the following view of the pauperism of the city, in the record of a single month. "Number of persons in Bellevue Alms-House, 2,449; Bellevue Hospital, 631; City prison, 225; Lunatic Asylum, 402; Nursery, 973; Nursery Hospital, 136; Penitentiary, 566; Hospital, 156; Second district police, 246; Small-pox Hospital, 4; Third district police 489; total in-doors, 6,327; of the out-door poor, children at nurse, 200; pensioners, 250; transient paupers, 420. Total out-door poor, 1,880. The supplies for this month amounted to \$21,305 : 84." Is it certain that a great proportion of these paupers were Immigrants. Would not three-fourths of the expense of keeping them have been saved, if such societies as we have described had been in successful operation, to transport them to places where their labor is needed? Would it not, indeed be greatly for the interest of *all* the cities, situated like New-York in this respect, forthwith to aid in their formation? Is it not evident from the above statistics, that they could well afford to contribute annually a large amount for the purpose of getting rid of Immigrants who otherwise might become a charge upon them? The JOURNAL OF COMMERCE affirms that ONE-FIFTH of the population of the city of New-York are PAUPERS, supported in part, or wholly, by charity. At this rate every four families supply a fifth gratuitously

with food, clothes and fuel at least during the winter. Will not the cities do something to diminish this enormous ratio? Some of them, in consideration of their interest and duty, seem to be making preliminary movements toward this object. "By St. Johns, New-Brunswick papers, it appears that the citizens of that place held a meeting to take into consideration the alarming increase of Immigration to that port. The resolutions censure the Irish landlords for shipping over cargoes of their tenants in such a condition, and end with an appeal to the home government for relief, in the form of a grant, or otherwise."

"STATISTICS OF PAUPERISM.—The population of Sweden amounts to about 3,500,000 souls, and has only 3 mendicants in every 400 persons; while in Norway they reckon 5 out of every 100; Denmark 4; in Wirtemberg 5; in Switzerland 10; in Italy 13; France 15; and in the British Islands collectively 17, although in England, separately, there are only 10. In Paris the charitable establishments afford relief to 95,900 paupers. At Berlin the number of mendicants has become double between 1822 and 1846; the number of families in that capital, supported by charity, has increased from 2,445, to 2,990. In London it is computed that there are 25,000 persons who daily practice mendicity or robbery."

COMMON HUMANITY, if not self-interest, ought to induce Europe to aid those who wish to Immigrate to our country, in the manner described above. Great

Britain, particularly, ought to establish an Irish Society at once, to assist unfortunate subjects, who have been forced by want to the determination to leave the home to which they are so much attached, until they arrive in a country where they can find a new home and plenty of food, free from the fear of want, as long as they are willing to work.

We are confident that the people of the West, in view of the mutual benefits to themselves and to the Immigrants which are to be derived from the location of the latter among them, will not be backward in performing their part in the formation of societies, such as above described, but their movements and success must, from the nature of the case, be dependent on the efforts from other quarters.

One word further, as to the QUANTITY OF LAND to each Immigrant who is to be a cultivator of the soil. A small tract, say from 25 to 40, 80 or 160 acres, well tilled, is far more profitable than larger tracts cultivated in a loose, slovenly manner. Communities and neighborhoods, located on this plan, are far better situated as to schools, meetings and social intercourse, while those on large tracts, as in some parts of the West, and on plantations in the South, are destitute of these advantages, living as it were estranged to each other, enduring the curse pronounced against those who add field to field and house to house. LAND MONOPOLIES, in all countries, are an injury both to the owners and to their neigh-

bors ; vexatious to the owner, leading to envy, malice, revenge on one part, and aristocratic feelings on the other. They are, however, in our new settlements, at their first commencement, less objectionable where the owners occupy and cultivate the lands themselves, and do not hold them to their own disadvantage and that of others. For instance, a benevolent individual may buy a large tract to sell to Immigrants, or a colony, or a few particular friends ; and to such at a very small or no profit, except to pay the expense to which he may have been put.

We have now, in this country, a SURPLUS OF LANDS, but it will not long be so ; and wherever individuals, or companies of men hold large tracts, to the exclusion of others, many evils result ; and why should not every agriculturalist be entitled to as much of the common domain as he and his family can cultivate, and no more, provided there remains one who has not enough ? The time is not distant when our country, like Europe, will be crowded with inhabitants, and may God forbid that, here as there, large landed interests should exist, to enrich, aggrandize and aristocrise one part of the inhabitants, who shall depress, defraud, despise and trample upon the other. Children of one common father should never do this. Let men judge of the worth and respectability of one another, as God judges of them, according to their merit or demerit, their virtues or vices ; and let all, as they come upon the stage of action, be placed upon

such footing that they may rise in the scale of wealth, honor, integrity and virtue; then, if they barter away their birthright for what is of little or no value, they will be accountable for the prodigality and folly, both to God and their country.

Prosperous as felicitous will be the time when every man shall regard his neighbor as his brother—the *race*, as one COMMON BROTHERHOOD, each seeking in all things to do as he would, in like circumstances, be done by; no one esteeming himself above another, only as he may be a better man, a better citizen; better in the sight of God, laboring most like him to increase the knowledge, the virtue, the honor and the wealth, and consequently the happiness of every human being.

We have said that the Immigrant must be EDUCATED. Yes, and most thoroughly, with our own children, in our English schools. Should they wish to perpetuate a knowledge of their mother tongue, they should be allowed the privilege, in their own way, and at their own expense, but not to the exclusion of education in the English branches; and it is not enough to educate the head; the times in which we live require first, and most of all, the education of the *heart*. God should be permitted to be our teacher. His Word, his works and providence our interpreters and text-books. Mere human teachings may qualify a man in the estimation of the world for posts of honor and trust, and acts of philanthropy

and usefulness, but not so in the eye of God. He who knows least of himself, and of God, his duty and God's due; of his works and ways, and how a man may be useful to himself and to others, has the poorest education. To be thoroughly educated requires not only, nor mainly a knowledge of books, but a knowledge of the means of earning a living, of the various sources of human happiness and usefulness. An *educated* man is a practical man, willing to do, or try to do anything that needs to be done, pertaining either to himself, his family, or to the world.

Closing Remarks.

Christianity and philanthropy, as well as self-interest, require an effort in behalf of these Immigrants; and the most efficient measures, both by such societies as have been described, and by the municipal authorities of all our large cities and towns throughout North America. THE INTEREST OF ALL CONCERNED PROMPTS US TO ACTION. The Immigrants need this aid, and ought to receive the benefit. We, at the West, with our beautiful and boundless prairies, all cleared, and blooming for the occupancy of the millions pouring in upon us from the old world, are to receive benefit from their labor and their money. The citizens of the East are also to be benefited. It is better that these people should not stop among them, where provisions are scarce, and labor is plenty; where they may become paupers, nuisances in soci-

ety. It would be far cheaper, and more humane for our large cities to gather together these Immigrants, clothe them, and pay their passage West, where labor and provisions are abundant, rather than to support them among themselves; and when they are scattered over the country they will have an inducement to work and earn their living by honest industry; but, if they will not labor, *then* let them not eat. Every vagrant or idle person in our cities and towns, who enjoys ordinary health, should be made to labor and earn his living. No child should be allowed to be idle. If their parents will not set them to work, let the civil or municipal authorities do it.

These Immigrants must have the eye and heart of Christianity upon them for good. Let us be their spiritual as well as their temporal guardians. Do we desire to live and act as missionaries? Here is ample opportunity. God has sent us men, women and children to our very doors, to be taught, comforted and blessed. Let us meet them upon their arrival, give them our hand, lead them until they shall be comfortably located in the best part of our country, encourage and assist them as they need, and all will be the better for it. Patriotism, philanthropy, disinterested benevolence—Christianity require all this, and so does self-defence, for these Immigrants, left to tarry in our large cities till their money shall be expended, without friends, counsellors or guardians, with no employment, and with little or no encouragement,

will prowl about, pilfer our property, burn our buildings, throng our poor-houses, and double our taxes. But let a society, through competent agents meet them, at or before their landing, tell them of the advantages of the country, the most eligible locations, provide them with the most comfortable and cheap modes of conveyance, give them their directions, their passports to auxiliary societies; and money, if need be, to help them to the haven of their desire, and they will amply re-pay all this care and sympathy, if not in money, in prayers for our welfare, and blessings for all the humanity, and fraternal affection manifested in their behalf: and what is more than all else, Christ at the judgment will say to the benefactors, "inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Hear the AMERICAN MESSENGER upon this subject: "The time has fully arrived when Christian philanthropy must grapple with the question, which any one of forecast has long anticipated. What shall we do with the surplus pauper population of the world cast upon our shores?" Political economists may look at the matter from their stand-point, and work out the problem as to the temporal condition of our country, weighed down by such an incubus; but the Christian will take a far different view—he sees in each living being an heir of immortality, and while he is not forgetful of the temporal wants of the pauper, and is watching with a jealous eye the

institutions of his fathers, he feels that the surest method of securing temporal, and of preserving our civil institutions, is to promote the intellectual and moral elevation of the Immigrant. Ireland, once freed for a generation from a religion of the state, and from papal superstition, and with the incentives and aids to industry, which an open Bible and a free conscience afford, would have been in far different circumstances to encounter her present (1847) dire calamities. Irishmen thrown on our shores can only be secure from the woes from which they flee by the prompt application of means to enlighten and save them. The means for accomplishing this indispensable end are worthy of the consideration of the best minds, and the efforts of the noblest spirits. We cannot be too prompt, too active, or too liberal in a matter involving the safety of the nation, and the salvation of millions ready to perish."

CHRISTIANITY PROMPTS to effort. To visit the widow and the fatherless, seek out the sorrowful and distressed, to give to the needy, and entertain the stranger, to do to others, as in like circumstances, we would have them do to us—this is Christianity. Fear not Romanism, for it is better than barbarism; nor Monarchy, for it is better than anarchy; nor Jacobinism, for it is more useful and safe than heathenism, nor the almost endless sectarian sentiments which they bring along with them, for these are not so much to be feared as Infidelity and Atheism. If Europe,

through avarice and cupidity, will pour her surplus population upon our shores, hers will be the loss, both spiritual and temporal, while we shall be in every respect the gainers if we rightly improve the event. The blessing of the poor, the oppressed, and the estranged is, to any community, more valuable than mountains of gold and frankincense. "Blessed is the man that considereth the poor, the Lord is his everlasting friend and rewarder."

How beautiful the prospect of a settlement, or a country, into which these former sons of want may be thus gathered. Happiness and prosperity have succeeded to sorrow and want. Education dethrones ignorance, and religion falsehood; the prosperity of the Redeemer's kingdom is promoted, and Satan's is diminished. God's holy will is, by us, truly done, and all the great ends of his kingdom of love are at once illustrated and advanced, inasmuch as human happiness is increased, and misery lessened: much missionary work has been accomplished at comparatively trifling expense; because God has sent the objects to our doors, where we could labor, and enjoy the blessings of home at the same time, instead of requiring us to go abroad at the loss of many social and domestic comforts. And though this will not absolve us from giving, to aid those who go into foreign lands, yet it is important missionary work, which we cannot longer neglect and be innocent. Patriots, philanthropists and Christians everywhere ought to set

about this work, not one waiting for another, nor for the services of an agent, but all as one, commence its simultaneous execution. Shall it not be done without delay? Thus ensuring the welfare of the Immigrant, and bringing to our own hearts a new realization of the truth, that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

Springfield, Illinois, August, 1847.

It gives us great pleasure to APPEND to the foregoing an interesting and instructive letter, just received from Hon. H. S. Cooley, Secretary of the State of Illinois.

Springfield, Illinois, June 20, 1848.

HARMON KINGSBURY, ESQ.

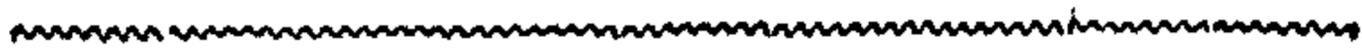
DEAR SIR, I am in receipt of your favor, requesting such suggestions as occur to me in relation to the inducement to Immigration and settlement upon the prairies of Illinois; and, although too much pressed by many and varied duties for time to give such a detail of my views as the occasion merits, I avail myself of a leisure moment to inclose to you a few hastily and imperfectly prepared suggestions in connection with the subject to which you are so generously devoting your attention.

M. De Tocqueville has said with truth, that "the valley of the West is the most magnificent dwelling ever prepared by God for man's abode." And the climate, soil, mineral resources, and facilities of navigation of Illinois, combine with many other advantages to recommend her to the particular consideration of all those who are seeking a mansion in this "magnificent dwelling" of the West.

That these considerations have not been overlooked, is evidenced from the rapid advancement of our state, which emerged from a territorial existence in 1818, with a population of 35,220, that had increased in 1820 to 55,211, in 1840 to 476,183, and in 1845 to 662,150, being an increase during the preceding five years of 185,967; and at the present time will unquestionably exceed *one million* of souls.*

It is gratifying to know that one, of your well known benevolence and devotion to the good of your fellow men, is giving such attention to a subject which needs only to be known to be appreciated; and which will open a new home to those, at present, unadvised of the peculiar merits of the prairies of our state. Your plans and suggestions, sustained by well-trying experience, furnishing substitutes for timber, fencing, fuel, buildings, and other purposes, upon our prairies, give an entirely new aspect to prairie locations; and, for your exertions in producing this result, you will render indebted to you, not only our own citizens, who have an interest in seeing our public lands covered with a happy and prosperous people; and the thousands in oppression, in other lands, who will unquestionably profit by your suggestions, but, be the occasion of grateful emotion on the part of all good men and true, of all countries, which are filled with a spirit of christian benevolence, and rejoice in the advancing spirit of our age—in the cause of moral, social and political being.

At a time when Europe's great hive of population is



* June, 1848. The increase of population during the last eight years, in five western states, is said to be 1,100,000.

filled to suffocation; and that country is revelling in a storm, from its centre to its verge, with terror and tempest borne upon every breeze, it is rational that the philanthropic eye should search for some new outlet for this sea of troubled waters. While millions of intelligent souls and generous hearts are being immolated upon the altar of power, and compelled to drink the cup of sorrow and oppression to its dregs, and embittering the soil with their tears, are "crowding the road to starvation and to death, as to a festival," it seems a propitious moment for the awakened sympathies of freemen to open a new field for their fellow men in oppression.

No more ample field for the exercise of this practical benevolence can be found than is presented by the fertile prairies of our state. Illinois, with an area exceeding thirty-five millions of acres of soil, susceptible of the highest and most facile cultivation, thirty millions of acres of which is probably not exceeded in fertility by any body of contiguous land on earth; with her million, or additional millions of inhabitants, has ample room to furnish, for our fellow men, for a small sum, a safe and happy home and a comfortable subsistence in a land where all of every grade, sect and condition, are secured the purest and freest justice and most enlarged political rights and religious freedom of which human government is capable.

We have in our state from fourteen to eighteen millions of acres of public lands, most of which are embraced within the body of our vast and beautiful prairies. Experience has proven that prairie land is in every respect preferable to timber for farming purposes; and more healthy and pleasant for residence. Many of our prairies, of ordinary dimensions, have filled with farms with great

rapidity; and the travelled road across those prairies which a few years since was of boundless width, is now narrowed, for many miles, into legal dimensions, and closely compressed on every side with highly cultivated farms. Once established the practicability of the use of hedges for permanent fencing, (and I understand it to have been done,) and you furnish at once a solution of all doubts as to the unquestionable preference of prairie locations over all others.

The rapid growth of timber upon the opening of prairie soil, and the exclusion of fires, is almost incredible, and would in a few years, with little care, supply all the wants of the occupants of the land. A writer of research has said in effect, and from his own observation, that "if the sod of a piece of prairie be turned up, and it be not afterwards cultivated, a few years will see a thrifty growth of young timber covering the spot, whose seeds the tough sward and the fires had prevented from vegetating. The precaution taken by the settlers against fires, enables the undergrowth, which annual burnings had kept down, to extend. And that it is a well known fact, that the timber in the prairie country is increasing faster than the population."

This writer also adds, "As these prairies are most easily brought under cultivation, so are they generally the richest land; the soil upon them varying in depth from one to four feet. This soil indicates, by its color, the fertility for which it has become proverbial. It is a black and friable mould, freely intermixed with sand, and is exceedingly easy to work, or, in agricultural phrase, *kindly*. A soil, so loose that one horse will suffice to draw the plough through it, which tumbles to pieces as it is turned over, in which no stone is ever encountered to impede the plough, needs only the crowning glory of the *lætæ segetes*, which

will wave over it in due season, to realize all that can be asked of a land of promise."

The larger portion of our state rests upon an exhaustless bed of coal and limestone, and the soil abounds in clay of the most suitable quality for brick, the former of these precludes all apprehension of a scarcity of fuel, for domestic or manufacturing purposes, while the latter, in its original state, together with lime and brick, secures the most essential elements of building material, while the opening of the Illinois and Michigan canal is the occasion of a new feature in the prairie country, by bringing into every port on the Illinois river, and at the depôt of every rail-road, pine lumber of every quality, at prices, as I am informed, not exceeding that heretofore charged for common lumber at the saw mills of the country. In addition to these more immediate facilities afforded to those desirous of locating upon the prairies of the Illinois, other inducements equally important might be suggested to the intelligent Immigrant, would space and propriety permit; and, although I have already exceeded my prescribed limits, I must ask your indulgence while I recur as briefly as possible to some additional advantages with which Illinois is favored. I will not allude to the morality and tendency to religious observances, and zeal in the cause of education, and progress of our people, or to their patriotism and intelligence, they are too well known to need comment from any source: but will simply allude to the advantages of Common School Education which we are enabled to derive from our profuse State School Fund, of nearly **FOUR MILLIONS OF DOLLARS**. The proceeds of this fund being distributed annually to every county and township in the State, in proportion to the number of scholars receiving common school education in the same,—to the produc-



tions of our soil, in beef, pork and breadstuffs, sufficient to feed millions of people,—the abundance of all earthly necessaries, which abound,—the rich mines of lead and other ores, which fill the bosom of our virgin soil,—the facilities for wool growing, and for grazing,—the unfailing increase in the value of all investments, in real estate made, particularly if improved. These, with very many others of a similar character, merit attention, which my limits preclude the possibility of extending.

And I cannot refrain from noticing, in conclusion, the facilities of Illinois for commerce and navigation, for receiving from abroad all the necessaries for our consumption, and for sending forth to the great mart of the world all the articles of our production. No state in the Union has such maritime facilities on its verge and through its centre as Illinois. Our circumference of 1,160 miles embraces 865 of navigable waters; while we have, through the central portion of the state, 500 miles of permanent steam-boat navigation. In addition to our boundary on one entire side by the mighty Mississippi, we have the Ohio and Wabash on the other, with the Illinois in the centre, and Lake Michigan on the north-east. The Illinois and Michigan canal, now in successful operation, connects, at a cost of about \$8,000,000, the Great Cordon of Northern Lakes with the valley of the Mississippi, and opens a new channel of communication from the Atlantic coast of the east, to that of the south, by way of the lakes and the mouth of the Mississippi river, thus rendering every portion of our own state easy of access, for Immigration, or commerce, by railroad, canal, and steam-boat, both from the eastern and southern Atlantic cities. Opening a magnificent thoroughfare through the centre of the union, and affording the advantages of great north-

ern and southern markets for all of our products and supplies, and giving an entirely new aspect to the agricultural, commercial and manufacturing interests of the West.*

Immigrants who adopt this exuberant soil and congenial climate, with such facilities for subsistence and navigation, with intelligence, industry and the blessings of a bountiful Providence, will have no obstacle to the enjoyment of an enviable home in the West.

The hardy laborer, dependent upon his own efforts, will find "that the value of one year's wages will make him the owner of as much land as he can cultivate, and as fertile as he can desire, which every year will be increasing its value." Citizens of other states, desiring more ample fields and permanent future homes for a growing family, or who are filled with a spirit of enterprise, will here find, as thousands have already done, a region of fertility where the best land on earth's surface can be purchased at such cost that the value of a single crop will add broad acres to his possessions.

The sons of oppression in the old world, those who prefer to worship at freedom's shrine to sleeping in tyrants' chains, or in whose soul the seeds of liberty are sown, and whose reason is bursting forth into majesty and strength, and whose unquenchable spirit of liberty *may*

* It might have been added that Douglass' bill, now before Congress, proposing a plan for the construction of a central rail-road from Cairo, the Junction of the Ohio, and the Mississippi, to Chicago, which has already passed the Senate, with valuable amendments in favor of other routes, promises further improvements, inferior to none that have been already mentioned. See Judge Bree's Report on the same.

be crushed under the iron heel of "rank oppression," will here find a land of the "free heart's only home," where he will never be made to cling in despair to the altar of liberty, nor to mourn over her departed grandeur.

Combining such advantages of education, religion, and of commerce; situated in a most desirable climate between the 37° and 43° of north latitude; "a climate best adapted for developing the energies, and most favorable to the constitution of man, with a soil of unsurpassed, and inexhaustible fertility," we present ample fields for a wise, virtuous and happy people.

A million of this population now rank among the intelligent, moral and patriotic of our Union, and proudly claim the title of *citizens of Illinois*. Yet so vast and magnificent is our broad field, that we have at this time sixteen millions of acres of land yet open to entry at the government price; and should your benevolent and christian enterprise in the cause of Immigration, with the aid of the great Architect of the universe, who formed this abode for his people, result, as I have no doubt it will, in covering these vast fields, and this exuberant soil, with a free and happy people, you will not only be of essential service in advancing the interest and prosperity of your state, and be the occasion of honor to yourself, but will have the gratifying reflection of having advanced the interest and welfare of your fellow man.

Tendering you every assistance that my abilities will permit, to aid you in your efforts, with best wishes for your merited success, I am, Sir,

Very respectfully, your Friend,

H. S. COOLEY.

END.