

tions of equality, and of all determination to be republican. The nature of capital and property is to accumulate. Those, who have no capital or property of their own, must work for wages; and these wages are exactly what the employer is forced, not what he ought, to give, or what the comforts or even the necessities of the labourer require. A nation may, in the commercial sense of the term, be very prosperous, though but one man in ten thousand is a landed proprietor, or but one in ten thousand a capitalist. Money may be saved to a nation as effectually by curtailing the food and clothing of the many, as by limiting the luxuries of the few; and, to save and gather money through the privations of others, is a more agreeable occupation than accomplishing the same object by stinting ourselves. Abundance of population and concentration of property, while it places the poor in a state of dependence upon the rich, has a strong tendency to make the nation richer, for it enables one class to save and accumulate by the privations of another. From prosperity of this kind, arising from this source, the Atlantic States were saved, or perhaps, I should say, cut off, by the western emigration. There is no country in which there has been more speculation, in the way of buying and selling land, than in the Northern States of America, but investment of money in large plantations was not practicable where slavery did not exist; for, with the western territory in the rear, to which men could emigrate, and with the enterprising spirit of the people, which led them to seek individual independence by removal, it was not possible to create, in sufficient numbers, the classes of labourers for hire, or small tenants, without whom land cannot be very high in price, or the possession of landed estate accompanied with the enormous advantages which it brings in Europe.

But, were it not for another cause, the United States of America (however happy and comfortable the individual inhabitants might be) would not in our day have assumed their present imposing aspect of national greatness. The drain upon the population of the Atlantic region, caused by emigration, has produced and continued a never-glutted market for labour, and workmen and labourers of all kinds were supplied from Europe. These, and their immediate descendants, form a considerable proportion of the inhabitants of the Atlantic States; they kept up and increased the population, and added to the national strength; and thus, by a combination of the most simple and direct causes, you have accounted for the present condition of the United States of America.

Had the native Americans been fixed and contented in their habits—had western emigration depended upon imported enterprise and energy, the great west would have still remained a wilderness, and the Atlantic States would have presented something like the form of European society; but, in consequence of the spirit of emigration amongst the American people, communicated in some degree to the strangers who came amongst them, there is now a most surprising transition in the condition of mankind, as they happen to inhabit one side of the Atlantic or the other. Though the climates may be similar, the productions of the soil similar, the language the same, and the laws not materially different, this difference of condition is as great, now that the American