

work, and of taking its hardest fare, and yet, as that work is the only work absolutely necessary, the only work which we must have; as theirs is the only duty which we cannot do without, into their places must sink down those who are now in less painful duty: and into *their* places would come those who are in more thoughtful duty yet. The whole organization of our society must descend: the whole fabric of our civilization be degraded. That would be the end of your quarantine, of your bars and bolts, of your successful restrictions. You would still have laborers on the rail-road, and canal, and factory. Those you must have! You would have pressed into that service those fit for better things; and the restriction you have made is a surrender of so much civilization, so much wealth, so much refinement. You thought these men were ignorant ditchers and delvers. To your eye they were. But God, when he supplied them, was freeing other laborers for your higher and wider uses, to be your men of ingenuity and of trade, and of letters. And he punishes your unkindness, by such a change of the duties of your own people, that from the unknown regions of what might have been, you have kept artists and poets, and statesmen, who were coming in upon you, of your own blood and land and lineage. You have chained them to the spade, and the barrow, and the pickaxe. For if you will not let the foreigner stand upon your land even to hew your wood or to draw your water, you will chain down to that service the Burns, the Phædrus, the Homer, who might have risen and triumphed among your own sons!

It is said, often, that without these emigrants, we could not have had our rail-roads and canals. We should have lost some of them; some we must have had. We should have lost higher refinements entirely. To reduce these general propositions to illustrations, such features of civilization as are Harpers' printing establishments; as the Athenæum Library, or the Observatory at Cambridge, or any newspaper in Boston could not have been called into being in their present perfect form, had not this nation had the free gifts for years of these millions of men and women of work, for whose nursing, training, and growth it had never paid a penny. Its charges for their few sick and poor, are but the merest entrance fees, for the registry of a tribute to it of inestimable value. *

It is true, that to attain the full use of this gift, the emigrant must be cared for. In other words, the country must open its hand to receive the offering of Europe. I have been hoping to

* See Appendix B.

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