

EMIGRATION.

THE NECESSITY FOR EMIGRATION FROM EUROPE. FROM A GENERAL VIEW.

While the statesmen of Great Britain and Ireland, and the whole of Europe, for that matter, are grappling with the difficulties in the way of restoring contentment in the over-populated districts of the Old World, to a disinterested spectator on the American continent, the path is clear enough. Legislation that abates the price of rents, that occasions a division of landed estates, among the tenantry, that encourages the growth of manufactures and industries in general for which there may be a spasmodic demand, may better the condition of the poorer classes of the Eastern Continent, and palliate suffering for the time, but all agencies combined can afford no permanent relief. These countries are over-populated, and emigration is the only permanent cure. In Europe, with its 3,800,000 square miles of territory, including its great area of northern inhospitable climate and unproductive soil, there are no less than 300,000,000 of living beings; or after making an allowance for bad land, lakes, rivers, townsites, etc., about 150 souls for every square mile (640 acres) of arable soil, and taking all the circumstances into account, those who have given the subject any measure of attention must conclude, the agricultural area is too limited for the consequent drain upon its resources. But while this is the

case with Europe in a general way, it is more particularly true of those portions of it, Great Britain and the countries on the Atlantic in whose welfare the people of the Western continent are more particularly interested. In this connection, a comparison of areas and population of the British Isles may not be out of place,

	POP.	AREA IN SQ. MILES
England and Wales.....	22,700,000	58,320
Scotland.....	3,360,000	30,685
Ireland.....	5,450,000	31,874

Total..... 31,510,000 120,879

After deducting for bad land, lakes, rivers, townsites, roads, etc., it will be seen from this table there are upwards of 100 people in these countries for every 640 acres of arable soil, or one to every six acres. It is true that in England a large percentage of the population is supported by imports paid for by the proceeds of manufactures, but the same cannot be said of the other islands constituting the Kingdom of Great Britain. The table furnished shows that in Ireland, where the people are most essentially agricultural, there are but two acres of land for every living being, and unless emigration is encouraged in every laudable, practicable way, this state of things must grow worse instead of better.