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## CHAPTER III

### THE PROBLEM OF IMMIGRATION

"Thus do I stand—  
Duty and Friendship on either hand.  
Duty cries 'Go,' while Friendship whispers 'Stay';  
But Duty's is the voice I must obey."

GARNET WALSH.

AUSTRALIA is the land of problems.

The largest of all these is the peopling of the continent. In a broad generality, there is no place on the world's surface capable of yielding so much for the benefit of the race, and where so little is being done. It is a stale commonplace that Australia needs immigrants. It is a puzzle how she is going to get them. It is a fact that a good many Australians are antagonistic to the coming of fresh settlers.

Now, it has been abundantly shown that the continent is capable of carrying a mighty duplication of the present population, which at present is only four persons to every three square miles. Even by a restrained calculation, I conclude that Australia is able to support at least 200,000,000 people.

Something is being done to attract suitable colonists. Paragraphs which occasionally appear in English newspapers about the arrival of one or