

human mating under favorable conditions of love and life begets children. Famine can stop human births. But no sane man would foretell famine to this Continent, stretching, as it does, through many zones and sweeping from sea to sea. Wars, repeated often, prolonged and waged with old-time destructiveness, can decimate a population. But he would be mad who should prophesy a return on this Continent, within 200 years, by a race instinctively commercial, and in a commercial age, to the worst form of old-time barbarism. I know well that human weakness is not dead; that passion still heats blood; that selfishness, prolific of injustice, still lives on, and hence wars may come again. But not one can well be fiercer, bloodier or more prolonged than that which we of the States but recently passed through. But did that stop our growth, wipe out our accumulated wealth, or prevent children being born? No! The graves were many, and grew fast, but cradles were more, and multiplied faster yet, and under four long years of bloody rain motherhood was safely sheltered, and the roar of a million men fiercely battling could not drown the cradle songs that rose clear and sweet as larks singing in the dewy air to the blue rim of heaven.

The Chinese have no census. Their Eastern habit or superstition forbids. And so there are no figures to guide us as to the monstrous total. But all agree that China has at least 300,000,000 of men, women and children within her borders. Why not more? Look at the measured map and find answer. There is not room for more. Her geography forbids it. Time and again has her living increase, like green