

They exist there in very great numbers and they exercise there a powerful influence. The same opinions which led the inhabitants of that and all the countries of Europe, enjoying but partially developed constitutional Government, when deciding to leave their native lands and seek foreign shores, to choose the United States as their goal, have derived further strength from the knowledge that there are settled in the great Republic millions of their brother Germans and the descendants of their brother Germans. It is therefore natural that we should expect, for several years to come at any rate, that the bulk of the Teutonic emigration will go, as it has gone hitherto, in the direction of the United States. The next important factor in the emigration to the United States has been from the people of the country from which I am descended; and we know that the circumstances of that country are such that, unfortunately for us, and for the British Empire, there has been a strong impulse on the part of a very large and important part of the population of Ireland to prefer the Republic. In this case the sins of the fathers have been visited on the children. The wrongs and injustice inflicted on the majority of the Irish population in former days—at least the no mory of those wrongs and that injustice, the recollection of transactions, which no man would at this day vindicate or defend, has remained with those now on the soil, and obliterates, or at any rate obscures to their vision the more liberal conduct and the more just course which has animated British policy in this respect of later years. That circumstance has led to a large emigration from Ireland to the United States; and we know what the condition of Irish sentiment still is. But I hope for great things for Ireland and the Empire from the events of the last few days. I hope and trust that the advent to power of the Liberal party, supported by a great majority of decided Liberals and Radicals, will result in fresh measures for relief and justice to Ireland, which will tend still further to weaken her old feelings of hostility and disaffection, and to make the Empire in this regard a United Empire. I hope we shall see among other things a moderate measure of Home Rule for Ireland, and witness by the applica-

tion of that measure the creation and maintenance of true and real bonds of union between Ireland and the rest of the so-called United Kingdom. But things being as they are, and having regard also to the financial condition of the bulk of the Irish peasantry, no wise man can expect that within a short time, that within the next few years, there will be any serious change in the current of Irish immigration. So far as the Roman Catholic Irish are concerned we must expect that the tide of emigration will continue for some time to set towards the United States. I hope the proportion may be diminished. I should rejoice greatly to see the Irish people recognise the advantages we offer them, and establish themselves within our borders, but still, I believe that for sometime we cannot count on a decided change. The set of emigration has been sufficiently shown by the figures I have given, and naturally, with the imperfect information available to those coming from other parts of Europe, and apart from all consideration of soil and climate, the notion of the important position and situation they would occupy under a Republican form of Government—the idea that as citizens of the great Republic they would have a greater part and more active share in the Government of their country—has actuated a great number of emigrants from the European continent to choose the United States as the field where their energies and their talents could be most fully displayed and the advantages of citizenship most freely exercised. Among the obvious material advantages presented to the minds of such persons is this: that the National Debt of the United States has been reduced in fourteen years by \$603,000,000. It has been reduced by 30 per cent. of the amount at which it now stands, and that great reduction has been affected in the face of great difficulties and obstacles, and, notwithstanding a period of depression which they have experienced, and which seems likely now to be followed by a period of revived prosperity, perhaps of inflation. I say that the contrast in this respect, upon which I shall take occasion later further to enlarge, between the condition of the United States and that of the countries from which emigrants come, is a contrast calculated to allure