

It will now be apparent that I have selected such statistics from the census as deal with large masses of people and refer principally to three distinct points: (a) the distribution of immigrants in various areas or states; (b) their occupation and residence, whether in city or rural, and (c) their tendency to become naturalized citizens and the relation of this to their illiteracy and tendency to learn English. I have selected such since it would seem possible to draw from them several broad conclusions. The first of these is that the nearer to the already resident population of a country, whether in language, religion, customs or occupations, any immigrant is, the more rapidly does he become a naturalized citizen. The second point is that immigrants of any nationality seek naturally those states, cities and localities where are already persons of similar nationality; and further, that as certain peoples through generations have developed aptitudes for certain occupations, trades and employments peculiar to their own climate and country, so will they necessarily follow such in a new country, if facilities for such exist. Hence urban residents emigrate to cities and largely remain in them, while agricultural people naturally tend towards the cheap or free grant lands of the newer states and territories. The third point is that the commercial, social and political environment of the immigrant in the city tends to his more rapid adoption of the language, habits, employments and ideals of his new place of residence. Hence we observe that it is in the larger urban centres that the assimilation of the immigrant to his environment is most rapid, while as has been shown statistically there may remain large rural settlements of people who for many years maintain their old customs, speak only their own language and scarcely can be said to comprehend or take a part in the political movements of their new country.

So far I have endeavored to indicate rather the actual facts as regards the forces which have been and are ever at work producing effects on the ethical status of the people of the United States and of Canada, than to attempt a qualitative analysis of the results of these forces. Much may be suggested, but in a study of a problem with so many factors, one does well to draw if he can only a few of the more obvious conclusions. Thus, for instance, that the open Sunday as compared with the old-time Sunday of half a century ago, has been largely due to the large number of immigrants from the continent of Europe. The growth of a literature often printed in a foreign language, which appeals or is intended to appeal to a type of readers measured rather by their numbers than the elevated quality of either their intellectual or moral appetite. The introduction and permission