

the ties that bound the Palatine to the Fatherland ; while from beyond seas came the encouraging messages of compatriots who had already established happy homes in America. At this very juncture when all seemed so hopeless in the Palatinate, devastated as it was by war and winter, the land-holding proprietors who were seeking to people America, showed extraordinary zeal and activity ; and assisted by their agents in Germany convinced the Palatines that better things awaited them under the British flag across the Atlantic. Till now there had been no escape from oppression, however severe. But Marlborough had made England respected on the Continent ; Marlborough had made England loved in the Palatinate ; and when in 1709 the Naturalization Act was passed by the English Parliament, it came as an invitation to the helpless Palatines, and they responded by a migration unique in the history of nations.

The question that now confronted the Queen, the ministry, and, in fact, the best men of the Kingdom was what to do with this large addition to the population. It was a new problem ! It was fortunate for these poor people that their general demeanor and their devotion to the Protestant religion had enlisted the active personal sympathy of not only "Good Queen Anne," and the mighty Marlborough, but also of the cultured Sunderland, of the cautious Godolphin, and of the fearless and the broad-minded Gilbert Burnet, Bishop of Salisbury. For their present subsistence the Queen allowed them nine pence a day, and she ordered army tents to be supplied to them from the Tower. Warehouses not in use were given over by their owners as shelters. By the command of the Queen collections were taken up for their benefit in the churches throughout the land. After some days' deliberations, the Board of Trade resolved to settle some of the Palatines within the Kingdom. Accordingly a bounty of £5 a head was offered to parishes that would receive and settle the foreigners. While many were accepted on these terms because they were clever artisans, and, doubtless, became in a generation or two absorbed in the English population,—a large number of those thus accepted merely because of the bounty were soon virtually compelled to return to Blackheath. An attempt to settle 600 in the Scilly Islands resulted in failure, costing nearly £1,500. A contract to place 500 on Barbadoes in the West Indies was apparently not carried out. Ireland absorbed 3,800 of them who formed prosperous settlements in Munster. The Carolinas received 100 families. Death claimed 1,000 on Blackheath ; about 800 were returned to their homes ; and many enlisted in the English army. While they thus appeared as clay in the potter's hand, there is no doubt that the unanimous desire of these exiled people was to reach America.

And strangely enough a complete solution to the problem was not to be given by the consensus of the intelligence and Chris-