

for a real addition to the sources of food supply and the opportunity for employment. But it is only a light breeze blowing in the face of a cyclone. If every project contemplated as feasible were executed, and if all were completed instantly by the rub of a magic lamp, some 60,000,000 acres would be added to the arable national domain. And if only forty acres of this were assigned to each family, it would supply the needs of the actual addition to population, by natural increase and by immigration, for less than three years.

Professor Shaler, in a survey of world conditions from the broadest scientific point of view, looking at man and his storehouse in the large, at supply and exhaustion, says, in "Man and the Earth": "This attitude of men as regards the future of the material value of the earth notably contrasts with what they hold to the moral and political future of their kind. A large part of their thought and endeavour goes to that group of problems, but practically none at all to the immediate questions that relate to the material foundations on which all the higher development of the life of their kind has to rest." Man may win, beyond peradventure man will win, from the silent willingness of nature, from her sternness and her clemency, from her outpouring and her withholding, the utmost of his aspiration. But the highway to the perfect condition must be fashioned from the common clod under his feet. And for every error and omission he must pay the uttermost farthing. It is not so much, at this point, a question whether it is to be our people