

less energetic than themselves, to come and take the secondary place of non-proprietors of land which the Americans were not disposed to occupy. Speaking in general, these are, I think, the sources of Northern American prosperity. With them the same course might be run at any time, without *other* aid. Without any one of them, neither the freedom of the north, nor the slavery of the south, nor British capital, nor public improvements, nor wise legislation, war nor peace, nor commerce, would have advanced them to the condition of a first-rate power—the main part of their progress being within the recollection of men now alive.

How narrow were the views and trifling the objects with which this great continent was first colonised. Canada was valuable for its trade with Indians, for the furs of its wild beasts. I hope it contains, even now, more Christian inhabitants than all the Indians and wild beasts put together. New Amsterdam was a trading post of the Dutch, I believe, founded for the purpose of dividing the fur trade with the French in these northern regions. It was, upon the English conquest of the territory, destined as an appanage for the Duke of York, afterwards James the Second—Maryland was granted as an estate to the Earl of Baltimore—Virginia was valued for its tobacco plantations. The plantations were considered in England places where it was desirable to have large proprietors and cheap labour; hence convicts were transported thither; hence men, women, and children, were kidnapped and deluded into servitude in the Colonies; and hence the dark and damning spot on American fame, the rock upon which the best hopes of that Republic may yet be wrecked—foul, accursed slavery. The relation of planter and labourer, proprietor and tenant, of the very rich and the very poor, were then contemplated. To the bleak and barren shores of New England, alone, came a race of true Englishmen with a noble object; they came in search of civil and religious liberty, denied them at the time in their own land. From these men, the Pilgrim Fathers of New England, have sprung that patient courage, that reliance of the individual upon himself, which have been the foundation-stone of American greatness. The fur trade is now gone, the great proprietors are gone, cheap labour has never come except in the shape of slavery; but that unprotected and undirected Colony of New England became, and has continued, the never-failing source of wisdom, moral and intellectual worth, and manly enterprise. New England had not the silver mines of Mexico, nor the wines of France, nor the silks of Italy, nor the slavery of the south, nor the cheap labour of Europe; but she had what was worth them all, the unconquerable mind of a noble race—a branch cut from the parent-stem of England, in what may be called the heroic period of England's history.

I have thus kept my view fixed on the picture presented by the Northern and free portion of the American States. I have done so for the purpose of founding a doctrine, that in a country like this, where land is in abundance, there may be great wealth, great happiness, and great national prosperity, without the sacrifice of one portion of the people to the cupidity or ambition of the other. For our taste, the notions of the Eastern Americans on the subject of individual indepen-