

stitution, Washington, we find that the conditions of heat and moisture, requisite for its growth, are to be found, with very little exception, over the whole area. Besides, the mineral wealth is enormous, probably to that of Great Britain, as the respective areas of the two countries, especially in the items of coal, iron, and copper. Not less remarkable are its unrivalled means of water communication. The Mississippi alone, and its tributaries, are said to have 25,000 miles of river fitted for steam navigation.

The inhabitants, too, are of the same British race, the sons of the men of Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, and Glasgow, who have the steam-engine for their familiar spirit; the same fishermen and seamen, shipwrights, farmers, and labourers, the strength of the empire without its incumbrances, the hive without its drones. At a very moderate estimate, then, we might consider the above area would finally contain a population per square mile equal to that of France and the United Kingdom, which would give a total of more than 600,000,000 persons. But if on account of the evil of slavery, which will always operate as a drawback, we should reduce that by one-half, it still gives 300,000,000, and the third of this, or 100,000,000, it may be expected to attain about the commencement of the next century.

There is, then, a great, but there is also a double future before the American people. This immense power may hereafter display itself to the world as a model of good government and peaceable progress, or it may take, like Rome, to dreams of conquest, and become a nuisance to the rest of mankind. In the first case, it