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before his eye, are so many bonds to keep the peace. The Irishman had far better for us be an alien or even an enemy, where he is restrained by the beniguant influences of industry and thrift, than a fellow-citizen where he gloomily converts every fact into an exasperating wrong; and if three-fourths of Ireland were vacated next year, the vacancy would only be an advantageous field for the expansion of the rest of our population, and would probably be filled up from various quarters in less than twenty years. The Irish part of the emigration is then, we think, no real loss to us, however we may regret the state of things which renders it so.

Deducting the numbers from Ireland, the rest of the emigration for 1851 amounts to but 78,594 persons, about one-fourth of the annual increase of the population of Great Britain, exclusive of that of Ireland. No doubt, that of the present year will be found much greater. But the drain must increase very much, *and continue*, to check very materially the growth of our strength, or even of our population. Against the like lihood of its continuance is the probability that, with increase of the population of the gold colonies, the extraordinary inducements which now present themselves there will diminish; and the still greater probability that the working of our own new system of commercial freedom will lessen the pressure at home on numbers who would otherwise have been disposed to go. The Emigration Commissioners already apologize for their delay in finding suitable emigrants for Australia, by saying (page 21):—" In most parts of Great Britain the labourers were generally so well off that they were little inclined to leave home, and their richer neighbours little anxious to get rid of them."

It is worth consideration whether to send our people away by the aid of artificial inducements, more rapidly than they would naturally go, is really the best mode of dealing with our increase. Emigration, although perhaps not a positive evil, may be, as a lesser good, a comparative one. The