

land but the buildings thereon and appurtenances. These lands are easy of access by rail, or river, or lake navigation. No such favourable inducements as these have ever been offered to emigrants in any of the British dominions. The Homestead Law of the United States has done more towards peopling and rendering the Western States prosperous than any other law which was ever placed upon the statute-book. This brings me to the point where, I think, the true solution of the difficulty will be found for disposing of the surplus population of England.

About half across the United States of America, between the 13th and 23rd degrees of longitude west from Washington, and 37th and 47th degrees of latitude north, there is a square portion of territory containing about 360,000 square miles. It comprises the whole of the State of Iowa, and a great portion of the States of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Kansas, and the territories of Nebraska and Dacotah; it embraces the whole of the Mississippi River and its tributaries above St. Louis, and the main portion of the Missouri and its tributaries. The Union Pacific Railway runs through its centre from east to west. It is tapped by the head waters of Lake Superior, and it will comprise within its boundaries the eastern terminus of the North Pacific Railway, now under construction. Its iron, coal, copper, and lead mines are the richest and most extensive in the world. On Lake Superior there are now 62 copper mining companies, and 100 great iron mines under working, and 14 blast furnaces in operation. The annual shipment of ores from the mines now averages 12,000 tons of pure native copper and 500,000 tons of iron, the iron ore containing no less than 70 per cent. of pure iron. Its prairies, whether for the production of grain or the grazing of cattle, are unequalled on the American continent. Its timber lands are the most extensive and valuable of any now remaining in the Northern States. Its main productions are easily accessible to water-carriage to the Gulf of Mexico or the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and innumerable railways inter-