CHAPTER VI

DISTRIBUTION — THE NEWER IMMIGRATION

Some of the reasons why the earlier immigration down to 1880 passed over the South and was distributed most largely throughout the agricultural northwest have been given. The distribution of the newer immigration—that arriving since 1880—presents a different situation.

Many economic cross currents enter in to disconcert us and to prevent our securing a clear view of this distribution. It is extremely easy to confuse cause and effect and a difficult matter to give proper emphasis to each of the economic factors. Among these factors were the unprecedented increase in our foreign-born population following 1880, the change in its racial composition, the very rapid growth of manufactures and industries, the startling increase in the population of our large cities as well as in the number of cities, and the relative decline in the influence of agricultural development as it affected immigration.

Was the large increase in immigration the cause or the effect of the rapid growth of industries and manufactures?

We can say that it was both cause and effect,