

country, though not inside the British Empire, much more developed, more accessible than or at least equally accessible with any of the countries within the Empire, offering more opportunities except for those who had the instincts of pioneers and almost equal opportunities for them also, and presenting a special attraction not only to the growing number of emigrants who came through from the continent of Europe to the Atlantic ports of Great Britain, but also very especially to citizens of the British Isles who, like the Irish, had no love for the British Government. The result was that for about the last half of the nineteenth century the volume of emigration from the British Isles to the United States, either direct or through Canada, very greatly exceeded the total number of those who went to all the home-giving countries of the Empire put together.

It has been abundantly seen<sup>1</sup> that in the beginnings of the Empire the planting of colonies was recommended as a means of providing employment and relieving distress. The same motives, more solidly grounded, operated early in the nineteenth century, and have been operating more or less ever since, not least at the present day. The substitution of machinery in factories for cottage industries, which brought starvation to the handloom weavers of northern England and southern Scotland in the years between Waterloo and the Reform Bill, gave a great impetus to crossing the sea. There must have been in these years more widespread and acute distress than at any time in the sixteenth, seventeenth or eighteenth centuries.

<sup>1</sup> See above, pp. 5, 6, 14, etc.