

IMMIGRATION.

Number of Arrivals at New York, and Where They Come From—Destination of the Immigrants—Prejudice Against the South—The Registration and Employment Bureaus, &c.

(From the New York Herald.)

While America continues to gather within her dominion the most useful and at the same time the largest number by far of all those who leave their native soil for new homes, it has been found necessary for the benefit of the emigrant as well as of the country to bring the control of this new population under some kind of system upon its arrival. New York is the port where most of them land and whence most of them start out for the interior, either to select a place for their settlement or to reach the place already determined on. This gave rise to the establishment of the Emigrant Depot at Castle Garden, in charge of a body known as the Commissioners of Emigration. A correct record is here kept of all the arrivals. The captain of every vessel bringing passengers is bound by law to report their names and ages and nationality to the Commissioners of Emigration, through the Mayor of the city. To control these reports the Commissioners employ a number of boarding-officers, who meet each arriving ship in the bay and report directly to the Superintendent at Castle Garden the number of passengers and their nationality, as they ascertain them on board.

NUMBER OF EMIGRANTS FOR 1868.

From these reports it is ascertained that during the year 1868 there have arrived at this port 213,686 persons, which, according to their nationalities, are divided as follows:

Germany	101,969	Russia	145
Ireland	47,551	South America	131
England	29,695	Nova Scotia	53
Sweden	14,510	China	19
Scotland	7,690	Mexico	31
Switzerland	5,502	Canada	33
France	2,811	Australia	26
Holland	1,265	Turkey	23
Denmark	1,087	Central America	21
Norway	1,063	Portugal	13
Italy	983	Greece	10
Wales	661	Africa	10
Poland	288	Sicily	3
Spain	210	Japan	3
West Indies	171	East Indies	2
Belgium	119	Sardinia	1

Grand total 213,686

This table is very instructive. In the first place it shows the immigration from Germany to be nearly one-half of the whole number of emigrants landed. Further it proves the tide of German immigration to be nearly two and a half times as great as that from Ireland, and that even England, the "blessed hold merry Hengland," stands but third in the list in point of numbers, while France, with all the denunciations of her Government and her Emperor by Radical visionaries, seems so much contented with herself that of her 10,000,000 of people less than 3,000 sought homes in this country. China makes a beginning and sends forty-nine of her pig-tailed natives, and the question may arise whether this is not the advance guard of a much larger stream hitherward of the people of the "Empire of the Middle." Suggestive it is that ten emigrants have landed here from Africa, and it is to be regretted that the table does not specify whether they were black, brown, coffee or maroon-colored or mixed, in order that the Republican committees may know whether there was a "nigger in the pie" of this arrival, and they might smell it out somehow or other whether this was or was not a revival of the African slave-trade.

It is hardly possible that the twenty-two Turks could have exerted such an influence among our people as to kill off Paillabellism by the roots; though it is supposed that they have gone West to swell the number of those who enjoy the theocratic rule of Brigham Young around Salt Lake. Unfortunately no record seems to have been kept of the number of performing monkeys on wheezy hand-organ in possession of the 933 Italians, else the increase of organ-grinders in our streets might be statistically accounted for.

DESTINATION OF IMMIGRANTS

Under this head a complete record is kept of all the emigrants leaving Castle Garden, and the grand total for the year gives the following figures. To the States:

Maine	293	Alabama	11
New Hampshire	411	Florida	31
Vermont	533	Mississippi	84
Massachusetts	7,604	Louisiana	504
Rhode Island	2,779	Iowa	7,019
Connecticut	3,458	Oregon	31
New York	65,714	Texas	265
New Jersey	5,916	Wisconsin	16,537
Pennsylvania	6,929	Nebraska	3,493
Delaware	609	Nebraska	1,419
Maryland	1,004	Utah	3,115
Ohio	11,133	New Mexico	5
Indiana	3,832	Montana	14
Illinois	31,625	Nevada	18
Kentucky	1,262	Dakota	58
Michigan	7,824	Colorado	38
Minnesota	6,517	Idaho	15
Kansas	1,085	Central America	21
Arkansas	78	Cuba	14
Missouri	5,891	British Columbia	69
Dist. of Columbia	873	Canada	2,723
West Virginia	22	Nova Scotia	179
Virginia	731	New Brunswick	113
Tennessee	519	Mexico	11
North Carolina	111	West Indies	14
South Carolina	148	South America	155
Georgia	127		

From this list some very instructive facts may be gathered. It is apparent that the great Western States, especially Illinois, are the favorite localities for the settlement of the immigrant population. They have all absorbed, more or less largely, this stream of the new population. Wisconsin, Ohio, Iowa, Minnesota and Michigan ranking next to Illinois in numbers. But why should Indiana receive less by one-half than Massachusetts? Have over seven thousand been attracted to the State of Cape Cod by the fisheries or the factories, and have the agricultural lands, the cities and villages of Indiana no such inducements to offer to the immigrant? Even the far-off territory of Utah, with its Mormonism, stands on the list with almost as large a figure as Indiana, and surely, in view of the easy procurement of divorcees in the latter State, no one Mormonically inclined need prefer Utah on that account.

THE LABOR EXCHANGE.

The bureau in Castle Garden has proved itself of great benefit. Those among the emigrants who seek employment are referred to this office, where they are classified and advised and promptly procured situations. During the year just passed no less than 18,114 males have thus received situations, and 13,029 females. Of the males, 4,311 were mechanics and 15,803 common laborers and agriculturists. Of the females, 471 were skilled laborers and 12,555 house servants; 6,579 males and 6,984 female obtained situations in this city; 5,020 males and 2,979 females received employment in the State of New York outside of this city, and 6,515 males and 3,066 females were sent to situations provided for them through the agency of this office in various other States, of whom, however, but a very small proportion went South. In regard to this latter set of

IMMIGRATION TO THE SOUTH

A few words may be here stated. In the first place, it has been ascertained as a remarkable fact that nearly all the immigrants arriving here are already more or less prejudiced against the Southern States. A large number have friends, acquaintances or relatives in this country, with whom they have corresponded, and they generally advise the new comer beforehand not to go South. The vast

railroad interests and land speculating cliques in the Western States, following the example of the Illinois Central Railroad, have their agents in Germany and Ireland laboriously engaged in extolling the advantages of their own particular section, but, by word of mouth and through the press, to picture the condition of the South, the feelings of the people, and the kind of reception awaiting an immigrant, in such colors as to deter every one from seeking a home in that unfortunate section of our country. There have lately been organized in the South German immigrant societies at Richmond, Va., and at Nashville and Memphis, in Tennessee; but these societies, if they would do any good for their neighborhood, should busy themselves in Europe, and not in Castle Garden, and should make efforts to counteract the influences working against them at the source of immigration.

THE BUREAU OF INFORMATION.

This bureau is a very useful adjunct to the Castle Garden depot. Here those who have friends or kindred expecting them in this country are "delivered" to their charge. Of the whole number arrived, about twelve per cent. pass through this bureau. It is a remarkable fact, brought out by the statistics of the operations, that in a very large number of cases girls and boys emigrate alone, and by their industry and economy succeed in saving enough to send over for their brothers, sisters, and often their parents. Thousands of husbands battle alone for years until they are finally enabled to pay for the passage hither of their families and provide them with a home; and even many wives have ventured here, alone and friendless, to live and earn and save to send for their husbands and children. The tricks resorted to by runners and others, even the crews of vessels, to obtain control of girls emigrating alone, are often intricate; but in this matter the officers in charge of the depot and of this bureau generally succeed in eluding them, thus saving the poor, strange girls from the wiles of unscrupulous men.