

# **IMMIGRATION: ITS EVILS AND CONSEQUENCES**

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Immigration: Its Evils and Consequences by Samuel C. Busey

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**SAMUEL C. BUSEY**

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## EVILS AND CONSEQUENCES.

BY

SAMUEL C. BUSEY, M.D.

*"We should become a little more Americanized."—Jackson.*



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## P R E F A C E .

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THE object of this book is simply to present to the American people, in a convenient form, the "facts and figures" in relation to immigration. The author has studiously avoided hypotheses and conjectures, and relied solely and exclusively upon positive illustrations to demonstrate practically the evils and consequences of indiscriminate immigration; and the evidence employed to substantiate any one of the evils enumerated as flowing from immigration, is only such as is authoritative and indisputable. The census of 1850 constitutes the basis of all the tabular statements, and the conclusions deduced therefrom are only such as seemed to be clearly within the comprehension of every reflecting mind. It has been an especial aim of the author to avoid all mere partisan statements, and any comment upon any fact which was calculated to exaggerate the evil or give to it a coloring not justified by the data, and if in any instance he has erred it has been an error of judgment.

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# IMMIGRATION.

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## CHAPTER I.

### INTRODUCTION.

THE repeal or amendment of the naturalization laws is one of the political questions now agitating the public mind, and it is important that all collateral questions or issues bearing, in any manner, upon this momentous question, should be fully and thoroughly investigated, discussed, and understood. The reasons, pro and con, should be fully and fairly set forth. It is the object of this work to show cause for a repeal of the existing laws, or the necessity of an amendment, which will extend the term of probation of aliens, and require them to reside long enough amongst us to clearly comprehend the workings of a popular government, and to understand and appreciate the laws and municipal regulations of the country. The machinery of the government is so intricate, yet so nicely adjusted, with its admirably arranged checks and balances, that, to

fully comprehend its operation, it is not only necessary to study it theoretically, but to observe it in all its varied and multiform phases, and to experience, feel, and enjoy its blessings, its liberality, and its security, to become acquainted with the scope of its powers, their necessity, their source, their object, their action, and their effect.

The untutored alien, however honest and patriotic he may be, and however thoroughly imbued with the principles of civil and religious liberty, cannot acquaint himself with the complex machinery in the brief period required by the existing laws.

The circumstances under which he was reared, his education, his training, the associations of his youth, have impressed upon his mind the peculiarities of his race and of his country. He has inherited the customs and habits of his parents, learned their sympathies, and imbibed their prejudices and animosities. The associations of youth stamp their impress upon the character of the grown up man, and give bent to the mind. The endearments of the past cling around him in the future, and the ties of relationship and companionship cannot be severed.

Every nation possesses distinctive peculiarities, not only in reference to its habits, customs, dress, and manners, but also in morals, religion, language, and in politics; and these peculiarities, whether of the person or of the mind, of society or of the nature, are so uniform and well marked in all nations, that they have been regarded as tests. Language and dress are not the only characteristics of nations. The qualities of the mind and of the heart of different nations are as dissim-

ilar as their language and dress. These distinctive features are essential to the well-being of mankind. Destroy them, and the nation will soon cease to exist. A nation's nationality consists in its distinctive characteristics; its government is constituted, and its laws are framed with national peculiarities, and as one nation becomes blended and commingled with another, its form of government and laws gradually change, its institutions give way, and others are established. This change may be gradual or not, beneficial or deleterious, as the circumstances of the case may be.

Every civilized country has its government, its laws, and its institutions. The citizens are trained up under the operation of those laws, and under the established institutions, and the effect and influence of such training upon the mind, the feelings and impulses, upon the nature and character are powerful and durable. The government is the political school of its citizens, wherein they are taught the justice of its laws, and the liberality and beneficence of its institutions, and these teachings form and give direction to all ideas of government, of laws, and of their effect and purpose.

In his "Notes on Virginia," speaking of the population of America, the author of the Declaration of Independence said :

"Here I will beg leave to propose a doubt. The present desire of America is to produce a rapid population, by as great importation of foreigners as possible. But is this founded in good policy? \* \* \* \* Are there no inconveniences to be thrown into the scale against the advantages expected from the multiplication of numbers, by the importation of foreigners? It is for the happiness of those united in society to harmonize, as much as possible, in