

ence. It is not so. There are some of the smaller states of Europe which has already begun to show similar decadence; but the people of Germany have as yet hardly begun to show it. The great cities, Berlin and Hamburg, for instance, do show it substantially, as it is shown in New York, Chicago, and London; and if this tendency is not checked, Germany, in its turn, will begin to travel the same road which France has long travelled, and which the English-speaking peoples are now travelling. It was the warfare of the cradle more than anything else which during the nineteenth century gave Germany its preponderant and dominating position in Europe. In this warfare Germany now shows signs of yielding to the Slavonic peoples, for the Slavonic races have been hitherto totally unaffected by the movement.

#### Why the Boer Prospers.

What I saw a year ago in East Africa was illuminating. In British East Africa the men who discovered the country, who annexed it, who started to settle it, who are governing it, who have made it what it is, are the English. But the men who are breeding its future citizens and masters are the Dutch! The Englishmen there are few fellows; they are doing excellent general work; I like and admire them. But as settlers they are hopelessly behind the Boer farmers whom I met, because they have very small families, and most of them do not look on the country as their permanent home. Of ten settlers of each nationality the ten Englishmen will be the leading men in the present life of the colony; but most of them are looking forward to going "home," as they call it, to England; only three or four of them will be married, and those will among them have only five or six children. The ten Boers think of Africa as their home; each is married, and almost every one has a good-sized, probably a large, family; and, unless conditions change, the future is theirs so far as the white race in that part of Africa is concerned.

Again, to quiet their uneasy consciences, cheap and shallow men and women, when confronted with these facts, answer that "quality is better than quantity," and that decrease of numbers will mean increase in individual prosperity. It is false. When quantity falls off, thanks to wilful sterility, the quality will go down, too. During the half-century in which France has remained nearly stationary, while Germany has nearly doubled in population, the average of individual prosperity has grown much faster in Germany than in France; and social and indus-

trial unrest and discontent have grown faster in France than in Germany.

If the processes now at work for a generation continue to work in the same manner and at the same rate of increase during the present century, by its end France will not carry the weight in the civilised world that Belgium now does, and the English-speaking peoples will not carry anything like the weight that the Spanish-speaking peoples now do, and the future of the white race will rest in the hands of the German and the Slav.

#### A Question for Americans.

Are Americans really content that this land of promise, this land of the future, this abounding and vigorous nation, shall become decrepit in what ought to be the flower of its early manhood? Our forefathers were the heroes of the tremendous epic that tells of the conquest of a continent. The conquerors, the men who dared and did, with hearts of steel and the blows of iron, looked fearlessly into the eyes of the future, and quailed before no task and no danger; are their sons and daughters, in love of effortless ease and fear of all work and risk, to let the blood of the pioneers die out of the land because they shrink from the most elemental duties of manhood and womanhood?

Mrs. Keogh, the mother of the Very Rev. Father Keogh, of Hastings, is one of the few who have lived under five British Sovereigns (says a Hawke's Bay exchange). She was born in 1829, a year before the death of King George IV. She was under two years of age at the Coronation of William IV.; about eight years of age at the Coronation of Queen Victoria; about 72 years when King Edward ascended the Throne, and now, at the age of eighty-two years, she is still hale and hearty to witness the accession of King George V. Mrs. Keogh resides with her son, and never a Sunday passes that does not see her in her own pew in the church.

Her eyes were pink, her lips were blue!  
Don't think me mad! this story's true.  
Her back was cold—and also hot,  
She shivered—and perspired a lot.  
He gave her "Woods' Great Peppermint Cure,"  
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She's better now; and, only think,  
Her eyes are blue, her lips are pink!

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