

## **Calvin Stowe**

“If neither the feelings of benevolence nor the precepts of the Bible have power to compel us to extend our fostering hand to the stranger; it would seem that an enlightened regard to our own interests might induce us to do it. A nation’s strength is in the number and moral worth of its inhabitants; and the vast extent of our still uncultivated territory demands the hands of millions of cultivators.

Let us now be reminded that unless we educate our immigrants, they will be our ruin...the intellectual and religious training of our foreign population has become essential to our safety; we are prompted to it by the instinct of self-preservation.

It is not merely from the ignorant and vicious foreigner that danger is to be apprehended. To sustain an extended republic like our own, there must be a national feeling, a national assimilation; and nothing could be more fatal to our prospects of future national prosperity, than to have our population become a congeries of clans, congregating without coalescing, and condemned to contiguity without sympathy.

It is altogether essential to our national strength and peace, if not even to our national existence, that the foreigners who settle on our soil, should cease to be Europeans and become Americans; and as our national language is English, and as our literature, our manners, and our institutions are of English origin, and the whole foundation of our society English, it is necessary that they become substantially Anglo-Americans.

The most effectual, and indeed the only effectual way, to produce this individuality and harmony of national feeling and character, is to bring our children into the same schools and have them educated together.”