The unification of Italy took place in the 1850s and 60s. The unification of Germany occurred only slightly later. This was a time of ferment in Europe. The abortive revolutions of 1848 had both whetted appetites for change, and stimulated realists to take into account the political institutions of the age. Nationalism, the belief that people of like social and ethnic backgrounds, who also shared a common language should be united politically, had taken hold in Europe. Previously, governments and boundaries had been determined by rules of inheritance dictated by the aristocratic families perch Immigration Experience. HIS/125. My Home in Italy was becoming hard to live in, especially with the news of the opportunity that existed in America; I had seen a poster that was created by the railroad and steamship companies that portrayed this method of travel as the most affordable way to travel. Many of the steamship lines offered their tickets to be all inclusive to make it a more affordable package to travel to America. Leaving Italy was very difficult for me, but I knew I had to get away from the poverty and try to make something of myself and my family. It was my dream to someday return to Italy with enough money to buy land. My family were farmers looking for a change and the unification was rural along with the land management was poor.