

ment of settled civilized communities amongst them. Then there was that marked unsusceptibility, if not repugnance, of the Red Indian to the customs and habits of civilized life. His aversion to change what seemed to him sufficient, and the enjoyment and excitement of which was satisfying and congenial to his proud, independent spirit, was very great. They have never, without reluctance, accepted the white man's civilization. This can hardly be wondered at when we remember that the phases of it which were first presented to them were not of a very high type. The 'pale-faces' whom the Indians generally first met were loaded down with 'fire-water' and consumed with a greed for gain. By them the Indian was first made drunk, and then swindled and robbed, first of his furs, and then of his lands. Is it any wonder that, when they 'came to themselves,' they were chary about accepting such a civilization?

The Indians, as distinct nationalities, are dying out; the remnants of the great tribes are rapidly becoming absorbed in the national life of the dominant white man. This is so evident that there is but little prospect of any considerable number long