

affects climate, and climate, the physique of the inhabitants, either for good or evil. Education and intelligence drain marshes and choke off miasma—clear forests and level mountains—drain cesspools and ventilate by-lanes, and thus improve health and morals and manliness. This to a certain extent is true, but I have often thought that isothermal lines might indicate different conditions of men, as well as different temperatures. The climatic lines drawn by the thermometer are really boundaries for differences in humanity, independent of nationality. The temperate zone produces the more perfect man, in all his parts; and the farther north in that zone, the higher is the mentality, the more powerful is the physical frame and the more enduring is the nervous force. We do not lay out this zone by distance from the equator, but, by the degrees of heat or cold: for the mountains of Afghanistan, Upper India, Circassia, Switzerland, can be classified to be in the same zone as Wales or the Highlands of Scotland. All these cold countries, wherever they may be, produce a hardy race; and even level countries, if they possess an invigorating climate may be classified in the list. Hot climates enervate, cold climates brace up. The Torrid Zone deprives the human system of torosity, the moderate gives recuperative power and increased vitality. The former gives flaccidity to muscle, but the latter gives cumulative strength. The former destroys sustained efforts of the brain, but the latter is constantly bringing to the rescue, on life's battle-field, powerful reserves. The former scarcely ever permits the mind to rise above mediocrity, but the latter has produced brain power whose manifestations in literature, art, science, and on the gory field, as well as in the political arena, are the heritage of immortality. As conquerors, the northern nations have a wonderful record. Greece might have its petty jealousies, Athens might vex Sparta, and Bœtian Thebes, look in proud disdain on Corinth, and schisms, heartburnings and intestine wars might be the order of the day, but all had one bond of union, and that was being Greeks. No sooner did the *Southern* Persians display their glittering spears and burnished shields on the European side of the Hellespont, than minor differences were forgotten; and shoulder to shoulder and foot to foot they showed a noble heroism: for the bloody gates of Thermopylae, the gory plains of Marathon, and the ensanguined waves of Salamis told to the wondering nations, that Greece was living Greece still. But, mark the sequel, victory made it eliminate and the hardy *Northern* Macedonians swept it with the besom of destruction, until "none so poor as do it reverence." Rome, the home of the stately, prosaic and stern, rose by absorption from a small city to be the mistress of the world. The *Southern* Carthaginians almost knocked for admission at their gates, yet Roman hands finally sowed over Carthage, the salt of desolation. But its day of doom came, and the *Northern* Gauls, athletic, brave "giants upon the earth" put their heels upon the necks of the conquerors, whose Empire stretched from Britannia to beyond the Ganges, and from Mount Atlas to the walls of Antinus. The Gauls had their conquerors in the still more northern, Scandinavians or Hanoverians. The frey Danes carried fire and sword and victory into England. The Normans followed at his heels, and after many a bloody battle Scotland remained unconquered. Bonaparte found his match in Moscow, and in British troops at Waterloo. In the recent struggle in the United States, the splendid muscle of the northern troops told against a brave foe, and were it not for the strong right arm of those southern sons of the mountains of Western Virginia, Kentucky, Georgia, Tennessee and other rugged districts, the struggle would have been of short duration. Prussia has at the present time a race of Teutons which must, other things being equal, conquer in the end its more southern neighbours. Canadians are the Norsemen of the continent and have the mental power and muscle and courage that can conquer equality and repeal superiority. The mighty eagle of the *South* may flap one wing in the Atlantic and daintily dip the other in the Pacific, and open its capacious maw for southern prey, but if it spreads the gorgeous plumage of its tail north of its legitimate domain, a truncated