

successfully maintains the battle for life under conditions which determine to a large extent the character of his ingenious arts and manufacture. Immediately to the south are found the nomad tribes of forest and prairie, with their teepees of Buffalo skin, or their birch-bark wigwams and canoes: the wandering hunter-tribes of the great North-west: type of the red Indian of the whole northern continent. The Ohio and Mississippi valleys abound with earthworks and other remains of the vanished race of the Monnd-Builders: of old the settled dwellers in fortified towns, agriculturalists, ingenious potters, devoted to the use of tobacco, expending laborious art on their sculptured pipes, and with some exceptionally curious skill in practical geometry; yet, they too, ignorant of almost the very rudiments of metallurgy, and only in the first stage of the organised life of a settled community. The modifying influences of circumstances must be recognized in the migratory or settled habits of different tribes. The Eskimos are of necessity hunters and fishers, yet they are not, strictly speaking, nomads. In summer they live in tents, constantly moving from place to place, as the exigencies of the reindeer-hunting, seal-hunting, or fishing impel them. But they generally winter in the same place for successive generations, and manifest as strong an attachment to their native home as the dwellers in more favoured lands. Their dwelling-houses accommodate from three or four to ten families; and the same tendency to gather in communities under one roof is worthy of notice wherever the wandering tribes settle even temporarily. I have a drawing, made by me in 1866, of a large birch-bark dwelling which stood among a group of ordinary wigwams on the banks of the Kamministiquia, accommodating several families of a band of Chippaways, who had come from the far west to trade their furs with the Hudson's Bay factor there. The Haidahs, the Chinooks, the Nootkas, the Columbian and other Indian tribes to the west of the Rocky Mountains, all use temporary tents or huts in their frequent summer wanderings; but their permanent dwellings are huge structures sufficient to accommodate many families, and sometimes the whole tribe. They are constructed of logs or split planks, and in some cases—as among the Haidahs of Queen Charlotte Islands,—elaborately decorated with carving and painting.

The gregarious habits thus manifested by many wandering tribes, whenever circumstances admit of their settling down in any permanent home, may be due solely to the economy of labour which experience has taught them in the construction of one common dwelling, instead of the multiplication of single huts or lodges. But far to the southward are the ancient pueblos, the *casas grandes*, the cliff dwellings, of a race not yet extinct: timid, unaggressive, living wholly on the defensive, gathered in large communities like ants or bees; industrious, frugal, and manifesting ingenious skill in their pottery and other useful arts; but, they too, in no greatly advanced stage of civilization. Still farther to the south, we come at length to the seals of an undoubted native American civilization. The comparative isolation of Central America, and the character of its climate and productions, all favoured a more settled life; with, as its genuine results, its architecture, sculpture, metallurgy, hieroglyphics, writing, and all else which gives so striking a character to the remains of the Central American nations. But great as is their contrast with the wild tribes of the continent, the highest phases of native American civilization will not compare with the arts of Egypt, in centuries before Cadmus taught letters to the rude shepherds of Attica; or the wolf still suckled her cubs on the Palatine hill.

If this is a correct reading of American archaeology, its bearings are significant in refer-

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