

a process of absorption into the dominant race, not without leaving some enduring influence on the European-American population, both of Canada and the United States.

In the North-West Canadian territory and throughout British Columbia, the population is still of a mixed character, consisting almost entirely of males. Such a state of things as the following is common:—Of 206 settlers at Port Douglas in 1860, only two were females. At Kamloops, on the Thompson River, four women and two little girls were the whole white female population of a prosperous agricultural settlement, when visited by Mr. Sandford Fleming and the surveying party of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1872. Those may be accepted as fairly representing the normal condition of society in the pioneer settlements of the New World. Alliances with the native women are accordingly inevitable; and on every farm or ranch, a family of half-breed children is growing up, familiar only with the ideas and habits of the European settler; and destined, like the half-breeds of Manitoba, to mingle on perfect equality with the civilised community.

Around every Hudson's Bay factory, a similar half-breed population exists; and throughout all the tribes in contact with them the evidences of mixed blood are obvious. Mr. H. W. Elliot, in reporting to the United States Commissioner on the recently acquired territory of Alaska, says: "The Aleuts, as they appear to day, have been so mixed with Russian, Koloshian, and Kamschadale blood, &c., that they present characteristics in one way or another of the various races of men, from the Negro up to the Caucassian." In 1870, Mr. W. H. Dall estimated the Creoles or half-breeds of Alaska at 1,421, including priests, government officials, and others on a perfect equality with the civilised settlers of European origin.

The later policy and legislation, especially in Canada, expressly aims at the adoption of the civilised Indian into the general community. Provision is made in recent Acts for admitting him to all the privileges of citizenship, in the same degree as is permitted to any European immigrant. But already this had been long secured to men of mixed blood.

During the French occupation of Canada, with the zealous endeavours of the Jesuit and Recollet Fathers for the christianising of the Indians, and the general preference for the hunter life, and a trade in peltries, to the more settled occupation of the agriculturist, a large mixed population grew up, and intermingled on terms of perfect equality with the French Habitans. The slow growth of the colony under French rule made every addition to its settled population welcome; and hence Colbert, in 1660, and Taïon, the French Intendant of