

possibility for them to have passed the intervening ocean," or in other words, to have sprung from the same stock, which led one of our own most valued associates, the late Professor Agassiz—a scientific observer of rare sagacity and experience, and one who regarded the entire question of American ethnology from a point of view peculiarly his own,—to adopt the conclusions of Dr. Morton, in spite of the palpable inconsistency of the evidence which he was so well qualified to estimate at its true worth? In his "Sketch of the Natural Provinces of the Animal World, and their relation to the different Types of Man," while appealing to the results arrived at by Dr. Morton, in reference to the imagined unity of the whole American aborigines as "a single race," he reaffirms the homogeneous characteristics and ethnic insulation of the American Indian on entirely novel grounds. After defining the evidence on which his general conclusion is based, that the boundaries within which the different natural combinations of animals are circumscribed on the surface of the earth coincide with the natural range of distinct types of man, he proceeds to show that America, including both its northern and southern continent, differs essentially from Europe and Asia, or Africa, in being characterized throughout by a much greater uniformity in all its natural productions, than comparison enables us to trace in the Old World. He then adds: "With these facts before us, we may expect that there should be no great diversity among the tribes of man inhabiting this continent; and indeed the most extensive investigation of their peculiarities has led Dr. Morton to consider them as constituting but a single race, from the confines of the Esquimaux down to the southernmost extremity of the continent. But, at the same time, it should be remembered that, in accordance with the zoological character of the whole realm, this race is divided into an infinite number of small tribes, presenting more or less difference one from another."

It is interesting thus to recall the matured opinions of this leader of scientific thought among ourselves in very recent years, and review them now in the light of the great revolution since wrought in the entire compass of ethnical and biological science. The author of the "Indigenous Races of Men" scornfully assailed "the Monogenists' idea" of a unity of race, and summed up the practical results which to him appeared to be settled beyond farther cavil, with this fancied demonstration: "It has been shown, 1st, that in America, humatile men and humatile monkeys occupy the