

race as so many standards whereby to condemn or approve those of others. The food of the Digger has won for him a celebrity which is far from enviable, and has contributed not a little to those occasional outbursts of disgust and those implied protests against the teachings of the monogenists that we should have such a wretched brother in Adam. His *menu*, or such, at least, as that to which he owes his name, is certainly repulsive to the Aryan palate; but, before condemning him, I am tempted to say to his detractors: *Medice, cura teipsum*; before you deride others, consider your own infirmities. The lady author of the article in question speaks of raw oysters and implicitly compares them with an air of complacent superiority with the worms eaten by the Digger. To be frank, and at the risk of appearing uncivilized, I declare that personally I cannot see much reason for a choice. This is at best simply a question of taste, and we know that *de gustibus non est disputandum*. What is ambrosia to the one will be gall to the other. Then we should not forget the unfathomable mysteries of the Chinese culinary art, nor the cotelettes of dog, the salangane, etc. which are relished in the East by highly civilized peoples.

But the Chinese and all the oriental nations are not to be mentioned in the same breath with the whites, will perhaps object a reader. I might take exception to that observation, but let it pass. Now I will ask, Who will tell of the thousands of frogs that are eaten in a single week in Paris, the city which many Frenchmen, following in the lead of Victor Hugo, modestly believe to be the center of civilization? All this, I repeat, is but a matter of taste and can in no wise afford material for ethnic comparisons. Worms, experience shows, are just as edible as dogmeat, bird's nests, frogs or even oysters, and while a portion of mankind heartily abhors them, the other takes as great relish in their nutritive properties.

Another circumstance which militates against the fair name of the aborigine nicknamed Digger is the fact that most of his congeners of the Shoshonean stock occupy relatively high places in the estimation of the American sociologist. Comparisons present themselves unbidden to the mind, and the poor Digger cannot but suffer thereby.