

founded on traditions of the Iroquois narrated by an Onondaga chief, represents Gitche Manitou, the Master of Life, descending on the crag of the red pipe-stone quarry at the Côtéau des Prairies, and calling all the tribes together:

"And they stood there on the meadow
With their weapons and their war gear,
Wildly glaring at each other.
In their faces stern defiance,
In their hearts the fangs of ages,
The hereditary hatred,
The ancestral thirst of vengeance."

So far the picture is true to nature; but no dream of a millennial era for the Red-Man, in which all were thenceforth to live together as brothers, can have fashioned itself in the mind of Indian seer. The Sioux, the Crees, and the Blackfeet, are still nursing the same feud of ages, and thirsting for each other's blood; while the thousands of European emigrants crowd in to take possession of their vast uncultivated prairies, destined to become the granaries of the world; and the buffalo, on which they have mainly depended, is rapidly disappearing and will in a very few years be as extinct as the fossil urus or mastodon. The Red-Man of the North-West exhibits no change from his precursors of the fifteenth century; and for aught that appears in him of a capacity for self-development, the forests and prairies of the American continent may have sheltered hunting and warring tribes of Indians, just as they have sheltered and pastured its wild herds of buffaloes, for countless centuries since the continent rose from its ocean bed.

Only by prolonged hereditary feuds, more insatiable, and therefore more destructive in their results, than the ravages of tigers or wolves, is it possible to account for such an unprogressive condition of humanity as the archaeological disclosures of this northern continent seem alone to reveal. Its numerous rivers and lakes, and its boundless forests and prairies, afforded inexhaustible resources for the hunter; and both soil and climate have proved admirably adapted for agriculture. Still more, the great copper region of Lake Superior provided advantages such as have existed in no other country of the known world for developing the first stages of metallurgic art on which civilization so largely depends. Whether brought with them from Asia, or discovered for themselves, the grand secret of the mastery of the ores by fire was already familiar to Peruvian metallurgists, and not unknown to those of Mexico. Unalloyed copper, such as that which abounds in the igneous rocks of the Keweenaw peninsula on Lake Superior, is extremely difficult to cast; and the addition of a small percentage of tin not only produces the useful bronze alloy, but renders the copper more readily fusible. This all-important secret of science the metallurgists of Peru had brought with them, it may be from Asia, or had discovered for themselves, and turned largely to practical account. The pictured chronicles of the Mexicans throw an interesting light on the value they attached to the products of this novel art. It appears from some of their paintings that the tribute due by certain provinces was paid in wedges of copper. The forms of these, as well as of chisels and other tools of bronze, are simple, and indicate no great ingenuity in adapting the moulded metal to the artificer's, or the combatant's requirements. The methods of hafting the axe-blade appear to have been of nearly the same rude description as are in use by modern savages in fitting the handle to a hatchet of flint or stone; and the whole characteristics of their metallurgy are suggestive of a recently acquired or borrowed art.

Such l
where to t
native cop
himself po
objects of a
markings, i
but the illu
has been re
a knowledg
Rau in his
hearths or
to melt the
ancient inh
tedious pra
taken from
State of Ne
times of E
an isolated
trations of
engraves a
in unusual
1878, the c
ninety imp
drills; in
of hammer
from the v
of the rare
forms of th
tell the sam
with the u
And y
elsewhere.
European
tin; but th
skill, befor
knowledge
home of th

* Probis
† Smith
about by a n
‡ Ancie
§ The N
|| Probis
¶ Antiq
** Prim