

duct are as effective as the rifle in subduing what the Jingo advocate of extermination called "that most mischievous of all wild animals the wild man." We have so far escaped the horrors of the Indian war in the United States and the brutalizing influence of such conflicts on the character of the civilized race. Perhaps it is just to the Americans to say that the intentions of the government, and of the people generally towards the Indians, have been kind; though they have been always baffled by the roguery of subordinates and the cupidity of the frontiersman. The guilt of destroying the Indian, Canada has escaped; whether anything that her statesmen can do will save him from the doom towards which destiny appears to be hurrying him is far more doubtful. There seems to be a gulf between the nomad and the settled, the hunter and the agriculturalist, which, only under happy circumstances, can be passed. Into that gulf the Indian generally has fallen. He has given up the things which sustained and preserved him in his old state without embracing their substitute in his new state. Of the fitful energy of the hunter, he has lost the energy and retained the fitfulness; he has doffed the hardiness of the child of nature without donning the protecting raiment of civilization. His camp, which, when frequently shifted was healthy, becomes unhealthy when it is made stationary and turned into an uncleaned village. Then come fire-water and small-pox. The sale of the liquor may be prohibited, but to enforce the prohibition in a wild country must be very hard. A bridge to pass the gulf might be afforded by employments intermediate between hunting and agriculture, giving play to the hunter's faculties and in keeping with his energy and hardihood, yet gradually inducing habits of settled industry if enough of such employment could be found. As hunters and trappers under the Hudson's Bay Company, for instance, the Indians seem to have done well and to have accomplished in safety the first steps of the perilous transition. From the life of the hunter to that of a herdsman is a less stride than to that of the farmer. Mr. Morris speaks in sanguine terms of the readiness with