

a common subject of con-  
less gifted animals enjoy;  
question may be asked with  
five or six human beings,  
wind and rain of this tem-  
d, coiled up like animals.  
rise to pick shell-fish from  
nd summer, either dive to  
r canoes fishing. If a seal  
utrid whale discovered, it is  
assisted by a few tasteless  
mpt from famine, and as a  
ed by paricide."

we naturally ask, whence  
re tempted, or what change  
e fine regions of the north, to  
trait of Magellan, and estab-  
reary and inhospitable coun-  
re is no reason to believe that  
ad, therefore, we must suppose  
t misery, a sufficient share of  
sing.

expedition of Captains King  
ties of examining the physical  
covered that they are provided  
against the cold and dampness  
gian is like a cetaceous animal,  
old medium, and possesses, in  
non-conductor of heat. The  
thick on the parts of the body  
on the hips it forms a perfect  
body, fills up the interstices be-  
antity of fat which covers the  
mputed to their diet, as their  
that of the seal and penguin in  
ardly be said to know as food,  
the kind eatable except berries  
rch trees.

providing for the Fuegians an  
all-fish, which are procured with  
required which can improve the  
or perseverance is necessary, like  
n hunting, must employ reason  
ng of the animals they pursue.

When distressed by the famine of winter, the dreadful expedients to which they resort for their relief, are such as to debase their faculties and morals still more. The different tribes seem to have no government or head, yet each is surrounded by other hostile tribes, speaking different dialects; and a dearth of provisions is sure to lead to wars. Their country is a broken mass of wild mountains, barren rocks, and dreary, unproductive forests, and these gloomy objects are viewed through mists and endless storms. The habitable land is reduced to the stones which form the beach. In search of food, they are compelled to wander from spot to spot, and so steep is the coast that they can only move about in their wretched canoes. They cannot know the feeling of having a home, and still less that of domestic affection, unless the treatment of a master to a laborious slave can be considered as such. How can the higher powers of the mind be brought into play in these circumstances? What is there for imagination to picture, for reason to compare, for judgment to decide upon? To know a limpet from a rock, does not even require cunning, that lowest power of the mind. The skill of the Fuegians may in some respects be compared to the instinct of animals, for it is not improved by experience. The canoe, their most ingenious work, poor as it is, has remained the same from the time they were first known to Europeans.

The condition of the Fuegians, as compared with that of the ancient Mexicans and Peruvians, affords us a striking instance of the effect of climate and local circumstances, in accelerating or retarding civilization and human culture. There can be no doubt that the same original stock produced the several nations which erected magnificent cities in the temperate regions of America, and which roam over the bleak and barren regions of the north and south, in a state more assimilated to that of beasts than men. The American continent, like that of Africa and Asia, presents several points of a primitive civilization, of which the mutual relations are as unknown as those of Meroë, Thibet and China. The civilization of Mexico emanated from a country in the north; that of Peru appears to have arisen from a point having no connexion with Mexico. Other civilized and industrious nations have flourished and passed away in America, leaving no written or traditional memorials of their existence behind them. Amidst the extensive plains of Upper Canada, in the western part of the United States, in Florida, in the deserts bordered by the Orinoco, the Cassiquiare and the Guiana, walls and dikes of great length, weapons of brass and sculptured stones, afford evidence that these countries were formerly inhabited by populous, civil-