

a fish diet is most favourable for intellectual development,—a theory on which we can perhaps account for the success of Newfoundlanders abroad, in intellectual contests. And when education has done its work, who can tell how many of the descendants of our fishermen, with their strong brains, and iron muscles which will enable them to “toil terribly,” will be found among the successful statesmen, lawyers, preachers, bankers, merchants, engineers and tradesmen, in the great cities of the coming age. The feeblers denizens of the smoke-covered city will go down before these fish-eating Newfoundlanders, whose fathers buffeted the billows, and fought the crashing ice-floes, and drank in the health-giving sea breezes. According to Samson’s riddle, “out of the eater came forth meat, and out of the strong came forth sweetness.” At all events, we have this advantage over our continental neighbours,—that our isolation has kept the stock pure from undesirable admixtures. We have here the intermingling of *varieties* of race, not of *types*, and that is very important. In the United States we see going on a commingling of types of mankind, of all nationalities, white men, black men, yellow men, red men, producing an amalgam which awakens some anxiety regarding the future of that great country. Here, however, the principle of “natural selection” and the “survival of the fittest” has been operating on a pure race, reared in one of the healthiest climates in the world; and I think that with due culture and the spread of education, a superior specimen of the *genus homo* ought to grow up here. If you tell me that our soil is barren, I reply, even granting that for a moment, which I am prepared to dispute, what is withheld from the land is put into the men. The best races the world has ever seen were those who grew up on a poor and rugged soil, who had to struggle with difficulties, and to whom nature was a stern nurse; but in the struggle, they gained energy, courage, self-reliance, all that constitutes true manhood. Take the noblest nations of the earth, past and present, they were not nurtured amid the flowers of the south, but in the cold and stern north; where they had to smite down the forest, and drain the swamp, and transform, by sweat of brow, the barren wilderness into the waving cornfield. From the hardy, much-enduring race that have