

It has been said and reiterated so frequently as to have obtained the familiarity of household words, that it *is the doom* of the Indian to disappear—to vanish like the morning dew—before the advance of civilization ; and melancholy is it to us—those doomed ones—that the history of this country, in respect *to us* and its civilization, has furnished so much ground for the saying, and for giving credence to it.

But *whence* and why are we thus doomed ? Why must we be crushed by the arm of civilization, or the requiem of our race be chanted by the waves of the Pacific which is destined to engulf us ?

It has been so long and so often said as to have gained general credence, that our *natural constitution* is such as to render us incapable of apprehending and incompetent to practice upon those principles from which result the *characteristic* qualities of christian civilization, and so by a necessary consequence, under the sanction of acknowledged principles of moral law, we must yield ourselves sacrifices, doomed by the constitution which the Almighty has made for us, to that *other race* of human beings, whom the same Almighty has endowed with a more noble and more worthy constitution.

These are the premises : these the arguments : these the conclusions ; and if they are *true* and *just* and *legitimate*, in the language of the Poet, we must say

“ God of the just—thou gavest the bitter cup,
We bow to thy behest, and drink it up.”

But are they *true* and *just*, and *legitimate* ? Do we as a people, lack the capacity of apprehending and appreciating any of the principles which form the basis of Christian civilization ? *Do we lack* the competency of practising upon those principles in any or *all their* varieties of application ?

A general reference to facts as they are recorded in the history of the former days of our existence, and as they now are transpiring before the eyes of the whole enlightened world give an answer which should ever stifle the question, and redeem us from the stigma.

Before citing particular exemplifications of the truth of this, I will allude to one question which is triumphantly asked by those who adopt the doctrine of the untameable nature of the Indian, *viz* : Why have not the Indians become civilized and christianized as a consequence of their intercourse with the whites—and of the exertions of the whites to bring about so desirable a result ? Who that believes the susceptibilities and passions of human nature to be in the main