

The Passing of the Red-man.

NOT many generations ago where now we dwell, surrounded by all the embellishments of civilized life, there lived a race of men whose only education consisted in a rude knowledge of nature. From the Gulf of Mexico to Georgian Bay, from ocean to ocean, where to-day may be seen the factory and the electric plant, the steamer and the railway, they wandered in contentment mid prairie, forest and mountain, or glided in their bark canoes over the streams and lakes, enjoying the fragrance breathed from the wooded shores. The silence of the primeval wilds they loved, was broken only by the buzzing insect, the croaking frog, the warbling songster, the startled deer, or the murmuring waterfall.

But two centuries ago, the smoke of their wigwams rose from every valley; the blaze of their council fires revealed many a brave and warlike chief; the shouts of victory and the war-dance rang through the mountain and glades, the quivering arrow and the deadly tomahawk spread havoc alike among men and beasts. And in the intervals of repose from war and the chase, the drudging squaw labored on the plantations of maize and tobacco while the little children strolled about gathering from bush and bough, the rich, juicy berry and ripened fruit. And at evening, when the curling fumes of the calumet arose gracefully in the ruddy glow of the camp-fire, all gathered around the aged warrior who recounted the valorous deeds of the past or discoursed of his future meeting with the departed braves in the happy hunting grounds of the Manitou or Great Spirit; for though these poor children of nature knew not the God of Revelation, the God of the universe they acknowledged in all around.

But from across the mighty Atlantic, there came many a bark bringing with them the seeds of life and death: the former were sown for us, the latter sprang up in the path of the simple native. At first the intruders occupied but a narrow strip along the sea coast from Newfoundland to Florida, but ere long French and English alike proceeded to gratify their desire for more territory by expansion toward the west. Thus has it continued for four