

"The former are a robust race, and principally inhabit the seashore; they are the most numerous. The latter are less robust, and their predilections are more in favor of the interior parts of the country."

At the present time there are being published, in the *Saint John Sun*, papers that are attracting considerable attention, under the heading of "Milicite Philosophy," in which one of the principal speakers is a Milicite.

But what will be felt and acknowledged to be testimony beyond all question, is the following letter, written to me in connection with this matter by Dr. Silas T. Rand, the greatest living authority upon the subject. The letter is dated Hantsport, N. S., December 10, 1888. He says, "The Micmacs and the Maliseets are two distinct tribes, *and take considerable pains to let this be remembered*. Like some more civilized nations, they look down with contempt on each other. Their languages, though cognate, are as really distinct as Dutch and English — Latin and Greek. Their canoes, paddles, snow-shoes, crooked knives, etc., etc., are differently formed. "I have a large vocabulary of Maliseet words, and have printed books in both languages, and am well acquainted with individuals of both parties. I have no room for doubts on the subject." What but blind hatred *could* have led any man so far astray with regard to subjects so well known as the historical existence of the New Lights and the Milicites?

On page 78, my use of the word "indeterminate" is challenged by this teacher of propriety. My answer is, that I prefer to choose my own words, rather than accept those dictated by this author; that the word "indeterminate" is an adjective well derived and well formed, signifying unfixed, indefinite, not settled; and, as may be seen in Todd's Johnson, London, 1818, folio edition, is so used by Sir Isaac Newton, Dr. South, and Sir Thomas More. A reference to Webster, Worcester, Stormonth, and others, would also give our critic some hints about the use of this word. It is not the only instance of a good word falling into unmerited disuse.