

those of another. The language of every day life is full of such distinctions, and this long before science had attempted their explanation.

Thus we speak of the "dry, clear, exhilarating air" of one district, and the "damp, cloudy, and depressing atmosphere" of another: of the dressy monotony "of a region, and the "charming variety" of another: of the awe-inspiring gloom of the forest, and the cheerful hues "of the open landscape.

It is to the influence of situation, these peculiarities diminishing the more, that nations extend their range of intercommunication, and the less they are restricted to own narrow boundaries.

We find man, at present, distributed over almost every region of the globe, wandering in savage freedom under the tropics, flourishing in busy communities within the temperate zones, and struggling in diminished numbers against the inclemencies of the polar regions.

Within the tropics he is a vegetable eater; in the temperate zones he adopts a mixed vegetable and animal diet; while within the polar circle his food is exclusively animal. But while in this respect he obeys, like plants and animals, the zonal arrangements of the world, unlike them the varieties of his race are distributed according to no law of latitudinal dispersion. As in districts of the same country we find differences of stature, physiognomy, dialect, and habits; so in the various countries of the same continent we find still wider differences in bodily appearance, mental constitution, language and manners.

Notwithstanding these well known distinctions, there is among the inhabitants of certain regions a certain sameness of physical aspect in color of skin, in form of head and face, and also in mental disposition which stamps them as distinct from the inhabitants of other regions; hence arise the varieties or races of the human species. That these varieties or sub-species (for the difference seems greater in some instances than what zoologists consider a variety) have existence in nature we have only to look at the condition of mankind, as at present scattered over the surface of the globe.

Here, active, intelligent, and progressive, there, sluggish, dull, and stationary: here enjoying the highest amenities of civilisation; there, grovelling in a condition little above the brutes by which they are surrounded. And not merely do they differ in intellectual qualities, but in physical organisation, in mien and stature, in form of head and expression of face, in color of skin, in strength and endurance, and, in fine, in all those purely bodily qualities by which one species of animal is distinguished from another.

I do not mean to treat directly here on Ethnology. I mean briefly to allude to the five varieties of races into which the inhabitants of the globe have been arranged.

These are the Caucasian, or White, the Mongolian, or Yellow, the American, or Red, the Ethiopian, or Black, and the Malay or Brown.

The physical traits of the Caucasian, White, or Indo-Europeans are—a light colored skin, varying from fair to tawny or swarthy, red cheeks, copious, soft flowing hair, generally curled or waving; ample beard, small oval and straight face, with features distinct, expanded forehead, large and elevated cranium, narrow nose, and small mouth. In stature the Caucasian is taller than any of the other varieties; of erect gait, with rounded, well proportioned limbs, moderately small extremities, and light elastic step.

The White race (for by this designation it is generally

distinguished) has given birth to the most distinguished and civilised nations of ancient and modern times; and has hitherto exhibited the intellectual and moral powers of human nature in their highest degree. Wherever the white man has established himself, the other races disappear before him. His proper field of development, however, seems to be in the temperate zones, in either hemisphere, for beyond them he degenerates physically and intellectually, and loses the higher characteristics of his race.

The Caucasian variety is dispersed over Turkey, Arabia, Persia, part of Tartary, Afghanistan, and Hindostan in Asia; over Egypt, Abyssinia, and the Mediterranean seaboard, in Africa; and over almost the whole of Europe; the Turks proper, the Magyars, Finns, and Laplanders, being of Mongolian origin. Within the last three centuries the race has spread from Europe over large areas of North and South America, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand, and wherever it has planted itself becomes the dominating power.

This variety takes its name from the Caucasian mountain-range that stretches between the Caspian and Black Seas, because tradition points to that region as the place of its origin, and it is also known by the term Indo-European, from its spreading over India and Europe, from the Ganges to the farther shores of Ireland.

The more important branches are the Hindoo, Persian, Slavonic, Teutonic and Celtic, with their various mixtures and alliances, which now constitute the nationalities of Southern Asia and Europe.

Of course, thousands of years have passed away in the development of their respective branches—each branch springing out from its predecessor and assuming new features in body, mind, language and beliefs, according to the nature of its new region, though still retaining enough of the original stock to mark its origin and descent.

The purest and most perfect type of man is supposed to be at the centre of the temperate continents, at the centre of Asia and Europe, in the regions of Iran, of Armenia, and the Caucasus. At the extreme points of the Southern continents, the most deformed and degenerate races are found, and the lowest in the scale of humanity.

#### THE MONGOLIAN.

Skin is olive yellow, the hair dark, coarse and straight; little or no beard; head or cranium some, what square shaped; forehead rather low; face broad and flattened with confluent features; high cheek-bones; eyes rather sunk, and obliquely directed towards the nose; wide and small nose; and thick lips.

In stature the Mongolian is below the Indo-European; but in the true Tartar, Turk and Chinese, the frame is broad, square-set, and robust, with high shoulders and short and strong neck.

In intellectual and moral capacity the various branches of the race differ very widely; but on the whole they are inferior, less energetic, and more stationary in their civilisation than the Caucasian variety.

"With the Mongol," it has been remarked, "the melancholic temperament seems to prevail; the intellect, moderate in range, exercises itself upon the details, but never rises to general ideas or speculations of science and philosophy. Ingenious and inventive, full of sagacity for the useful arts and conveniences of life, it nevertheless is incompetent to generalise their application. Wholly turned to the things of earth, the world seems closed against him.