

Daniel perished amid a band of his Indian converts, massacred by the pagan Iroquois ; and many successive martyr missionaries suffered at the stake, or were put to frightful tortures, while engaged in their self-denying labours. When at length a miserable remnant of the Huron nation alone survived the exterminating warfare of their ferocious enemies, they were gathered together by the missionary priests, and settled in the neighbourhood of Quebec, where their descendants of mixed blood still survive. But our modern "missionary," the Abbé Domenech, in his "Map showing *the actual situation of the Indian tribes and the country described*," represents the Hurons as still in occupation of the region, from whence the last of them disappeared while the Cardinal Richelieu still ruled the destinies of France and her colonies. Had our Abbé actually visited the country of the savage Hurons, he would have done so in a comfortable railway car, and handed his well-furnished valise to mine host's baggage-porter ; in which case he might have questioned the propriety of including it within any one of his "great deserts."

"The Red Men are melting like snow before the sun," was the touching simile of a Miami orator. Whole nations have been utterly exterminated, and the last remnants of others are rapidly following in their wake. Yet still the aborigines assert their claim to a broad and ample domain. Amid all the fictitious romance associated with the name of the Red Indian, we fear that neither Canadian philanthropists nor British Christians are fully alive to their claims on us, or to the numbers still surviving to advance such claims. If we assert the indisputable rights of conquerors and colonists, to our American possessions, do these rights involve no corresponding duties ? In the United States, including the Confederate Southerners, with Texas and New Mexico, the Indians number about 500,000 ; in and around the settled British Provinces they cannot be less than 10,000 ; and throughout British North America, exclusive of the Esquimaux, they have been estimated at 125,000. On these great numbers (apart from those of Mexico, Central and Southern America,) Christianity and civilization have been equally inoperative. The great mass is still pagan ; and what is surely a grave reproach to the British nation and her colonies, this statement applies with full force to many tribes long settled and surrounded by a white population ; who regard with a contemptuous indifference, the dissipated, idle, improvident descendant of the old savage hunter and warrior of the forest.