

friends with us ; why he seems to prefer—as I have little doubt he does—to live in a community of his own people rather than to intermingle with, and intermarry with the whites ? And again, if these patriotic feelings be so strong in him, is it not foolish for us on our part to think that a few years' schooling of his children will knock all the Indian out of him, and fit him for accepting and adopting all the ins and outs of our advanced civilization. “ You may take your horse to water, but cannot make him drink.”

The Indian, I believe, *must have time*. These changes that *we* think so good for him, must not be forced upon him too suddenly. Surely, if we would be successful in our dealings with these aboriginal people, we must lead them on slowly and kindly to see that these great and radical changes, which civilization necessarily brings in its train, are really for their good. We must give them time to take, taste, try and prove, these various measures which we are taking for their benefit. And if they take them and use them in their way, rather than in our way, what reason can we have for being surprised ? They, as a people, are so differently constituted to ourselves, that it seems scarcely to be expected that they should accept our laws and customs, and do everything just in the way that we do. If it is our great aim and object to make them self-supporting and self-dependent, then it would seem to be only wise and politic on the part of our rulers, to offer to them a *modus vivendi* that will please them. In order to become an industrious and prosperous people, they must become first a contented people. They can never become prosperous while feeling discontented and aggrieved. How can we expect them to be happy and contented, so long as measure after measure is forced upon them, without any reference to their own desires or their own feelings ? Surely it were wiser now that a large proportion of our Indians, especially those living in Ontario, are comparatively civilized and educated, and able to con-