

christian people have so noble a race of savage men placed so within their reach and controul, to whom they might impart the blessings of civilization and Christianity, and whom they might preserve to all future ages, a monument of the elevating and improving tendency of their arts, and the purifying and saving efficacy of their religion. How have we executed this philanthropic trust? Go back and search for the many tribes which covered New England and the Middle and Southern States two centuries ago, and which by contact with us have vanished from the earth like the morning dew,—and there find a reply. Instead of remaining, honorable monuments of our good faith and guardian care, the story of their wrongs and extermination must go down to all future ages, a memorial of our perfidy and abuse. What true friend of his country but must weep at the thought, how great our honour might have been, and how great our shame is!

But, even at this late day, we must do what we can. A few remain. Let us, as far as possible, make amends for past neglect, by increased exertions in future. If they are all to be hurried from the earth, and after an age or two more, not a tribe is to remain, let us offer Christ and salvation to as many as we can reach, hoping to prepare a remnant, at least, to enter a better land above, and thus mitigate the curse which impends over us for our past injustice and neglected duty.

But is said daily, do what you will for the Indian, he will be an Indian still. If it is meant that their habits and character cannot be changed in a year, or completely in a single generation, it may be true; and so it is true of every other race of men. But if it be meant that a persevering course of kindness and instruction will not effect this change, the implied charge is both unphilosophical and unchristian, and it is in opposition to historical facts. What band of savage men were ever more rapidly and thoroughly transformed in character and habits, than Elliot's colony at Natick? The Stockbridge Indians, a large portion of the Senecas and Tuscaroras, the Cherokees and the Choctaws, are living examples of this transformation. Men who bring this charge, expect too much, and expect it too soon; without reflecting how entire the change must be, in taste, estimates of things, habits, prejudices and prepossessions; and without reflecting how ill-adapted, inadequate, and intermitted have been the means used to effect the change. It is fairly questionable whether any race of men were ever more able to understand the disadvantages of their own habits and manner of life, or more ready to adopt a change which appeared to them practicable, than are the North American Indians.—*Boston Missionary Herald*.

The University of Glasgow has conferred the degree of D. D. on the Rev. Alexander Mattheson, of Montreal, and the Rev John Cook of Quebec, and the degree of L. L. D. on the Rev. Daniel Wilkie, of Quebec.

MISCELLANIES.

THE ST. LAWRENCE AND ITS VALLEY.—The river St. Lawrence extends from longitude 67° to 94° West, having its mouth in latitude 50° North, and its source in 47° . The northernmost sources of the rivers which empty into it are in latitude 52° , and the southernmost in 40° . The greatest width of its valley is near its west end, about 650 miles, measuring from the sources of the Miamis in the State of Ohio, to the source of the Redstone which falls into Lake Superior, and the most narrow part is at its mouth, about 200 miles. Its greatest length following the course of the river and the great lakes, is about 2,000 miles.

The part of the valley of the St. Lawrence within the British dominions, is estimated to contain about 300,000 square miles, and 200 millions of acres of cultivable land, only about four millions of which are actually occupied, by a million of souls, leaving 190,000,000 of acres in a state of nature, only partially traversed by the remains of the aboriginal inhabitants, at those seasons when they leave their villages to engage in their hunting excursions.

The British part of the valley of the St. Lawrence therefore may be supposed to contain less than a fiftieth part of the inhabitants of it which it is susceptible, and that part of which is within the limits of the United States of North America, probably has room for an equally great increase of population.

A great part of the country is of rich soil, in a climate remarkably healthy, although liable to great extremes of heat and cold, capable of being made to produce all that is necessary for the subsistence of man, and abounding in useful natural productions in demand in other countries.

The river and lakes offer the most extensive inland navigation in the world, affording an easy means of commercial communication throughout this immense valley, and also with the adjacent countries and the whole civilized world. At the present time there actually exists an inland water communication with the whole course of the Ohio, Missouri and Mississippi to New Orleans, and by the Chamblay, Lake Champlain and the Hudson to New York, the distance between which and Quebec is now traversed by steam in three days. Both sides of the St. Lawrence and the great lakes, in relation to countries beyond the sea, have, or might easily be made to have, all the advantages of a sea coast during the season of navigation, which is between six and seven months in the year, with the advantages of good roads of communication to the shipping places on the snow and ice during the winter.

The natural advantages of the valley of the St. Lawrence have not, however, been sufficiently improv-