

more patient of toil, more impressible but more capable of bearing powerful irritation. In short it is made up of finer material which though apparently frailer always outlasts the coarser. The physical and mental changes which are taking place in the inhabitants of the United States are apparently to adapt men to meet with the demands of a higher civilization.

It has been asserted that physical degeneracy is already apparent in the American people, and that, supposing Christianity to prevail with all mankind the Christian character of the future would be deficient in courageous and manly principles. The answer to the latter part of the objection is, that as civilization advances moral courage will be more and more in demand, and physical nerve and resolution gained. The Christian ideal has always been far in advance of past ages; and is still far in advance of our own. It would be difficult, nearly impossible, for man to conform his life to the higher principles of Christianity, and survive in the struggle for existence; but it is not to be denied that it would be easier of accomplishment in the present century than any century past.

The answer to the former part of the objection is one of statistics. Few even imagine what a magnificent type of manhood the American race is. Statistics of the late Rebellion prove the native American was from three quarters of an inch to one inch taller than the tallest of the foreigners; that he was only exceeded in girth of chest by the Irish (the stoutest of all foreigners) by one quarter of an inch; that his weight was in proportion to his stature; and that in physical endurance he was equaled by none.