

ral ways by which the American continent was furnished with its numerous centres of population.

The barbarizing process of extending population through the Aleutian Islands and Behring's Straits to the American coast under the circumstances of privation and want which must have attended it, renders it philosophically probable that the germs of the more savage tribes were from these two sources, and that the civilizing elements which were developed in Mexico and Peru, were castaways, more immediately from the civilized portions of the old continent; and this philosophical view, let us remember, corresponds with the historical facts preserved by the Mexicans and Peruvians, that such was the actual order of their civilization.

Again, these more civilized castaways would, as we have seen, almost inevitably, be cast upon the north-west coast. Their superior intelligence and destitute circumstances would naturally lead them to journey southward in quest of a more genial climate and more ready means of subsistence; while the more barbarous tribes, springing from the north-east of Asia, would **as naturally remain** in their native latitude, ascend the streams in quest of fish and game, and at length penetrate through the mountain passes and spread over the vast plains of the north. This also corresponds with the facts of Indian history—that none but savage tribes have permanently occupied the North, and that civilization entered the Mexican valley from the North-west. The tendency of migration towards the South, would naturally produce a crowded population near the Isthmus, engender wars and drive the vanquished into South America, as well as eastward, along the Gulf and over its islands.

The greatest difficulty perhaps, in this whole inquiry is, to account for the appearance of one or two civilized bands in Peru—the bearded white men, as they were called, from Lake Titicaca, and the Incas, if indeed they were not identical. Lake Titicaca was South, or at the southern extremity of the Peruvian Empire, so that these civilizers seem to have entered the