

SMOKING THE PIPE OF FRIENDSHIP.

The Pipe or Calamut is generally made of stone, highly polished; the bowl is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, of an oval shape, or in the same direction with the stem.

On the reception of a friend, the chief makes a circle in the sand, lights his pipe,—first directs the stem to the heavens, in regard to the Almighty, in whom the Indians believe; then to the centre of the circle, in manifestation of *love*, which should be the moving principle, and in the centre of all human actions; then to the guest who receives it, after which each person present, takes a number of whiffs. No talk or noise of any kind can commence, till after the business of smoking is concluded. When they pretend a sacred regard to the guest, they pull off their moccasins; a religious custom, which the tribes of Israel were required to observe when standing “on holy ground.”

RELIGION.

There are many things in the religious faith and observances of this people, which bear a strong analogy to the Jewish ritual.

Besides the instances above, they observe days of humiliation, fasting and prayer. They have, annually, a religious celebration, which continues seven days, on which occasion they make a mock sacrifice of a prince,—return thanks for past favours, and implore the benediction of their god, *Quahootze*. They torture themselves by piercing their sides and arms; and try in various ways to surpass each other, in their proofs of enduring pain.

The Chopunish nation, have huts appropriated specially for women, where they must retreat and observe the rights of purification. No person is suffered to approach these deserted females; and even their food is thrown to them, at a considerable distance.

From these circumstances, and many others, that might be mentioned, of their dress, ornaments and