

progress of such vermin as may have passed the leaf. The flooring is made with thin strips of bamboos laid at such distances from one another, as to leave free admission for light and air, and the inside is neatly finished and decorated with fishing lances, nets, &c.

The art of making cloth of any kind is quite unknown to the inhabitants of this island: what they have is got from the ships that come to trade in cocoanuts. In exchange for their nuts (which are reckoned the finest in this part of *India*) they will accept of but few articles; what they chiefly wish for is cloth of different colours, hatchets and hanger blades, which they use in cutting down the nuts. Tobacco and arack they are very fond of, but expect these in presents. They have no money of their own, nor will they allow any value to the coin of other countries, further than as they happen to fancy them for ornaments; the young women sometimes hanging strings of dollars about their necks. However they are good judges of gold and silver, and it is no easy matter to impose baser metals upon them, as such.

They purchase a much larger quantity of cloth, than is consumed upon their own island. This is intended for the *Choury* market. *Choury* is a small island to the southward of theirs, to which a large fleet of their boats sails every year about the month of *November*, to exchange cloth for *Canoes*; for they cannot make these themselves. This voyage they perform by the help of the sun and stars, for they know nothing of the compass.

In their disposition there are two remarkable qualities. One is their entire neglect of compliment and ceremony, and the other, their aversion to dishonesty. A *Carnicobarian* travelling to a distant village upon business or amusement, passes through many towns in his way without perhaps speaking to any one: if he is hungry or tired he goes up into the nearest house, and helps himself to what he wants, and sits till he is rested, without taking the smallest notice of any of the family, unless he has business or news to communicate. Theft or robbery is so very rare amongst them, that a man going out of his house, never takes away his ladder, or shuts his door, but leaves it open for any body to enter that pleases, without the least apprehension of having any thing stolen from him.

Their intercourse with strangers is so frequent, that they have acquired in general the barbarous *Portuguese* so common over *India*; their own language has a sound quite different from most others, their words being pronounced with a kind of stop, or catch in the throat, at every syllable. The few following words will serve to shew those, who are acquainted with other *Indian* languages, whither there is any similitude between them.

A man,	<i>Kegonia.</i>	To eat,	<i>Gnia.</i>
A woman,	<i>Kecanna.</i>	To drink,	<i>Okk.</i>
A child,	<i>Chu.</i>	Yams,	<i>Towla.</i>
To laugh,	<i>Ayelaur.</i>	To weep,	<i>Poing.</i>
A canoe,	<i>App.</i>	A pine apple,	<i>Frung.</i>
A house,	<i>Albanum.</i>	To sleep,	<i>Loom loom.</i>
A fowl,	<i>Hayám.</i>	A dog,	<i>Taman.</i>
A hog,	<i>Hown.</i>	Fire,	<i>Tamia.</i>
Fish,	<i>Ka.</i>	Rain,	<i>Koomra.</i>

They have no notion of God, but they believe firmly in the devil, and worship him from fear. In every village there is a high pole erected with long strings of ground-rattans hanging from it, which, it is said, has the virtue