

been observed, that the expression of the countenance is somewhat similar to what we observe in this country, when the features have been drawn in, and, as it were, shrivelled by intense cold. Their bodies are dark grey, but their face appears more of an olive colour; their skin is unctuous, and unpleasantly cold to the touch; and their hair long, straight, & jet black. The female countenance, without pretension to regular beauty, is said to be often agreeable, having a frank and good humoured expression. They are extremely nimble with their feet, and dexterous with their hands; they manage their canoes with much skill; and carry burthens which we could not lift. Such is the appearance of man in these cold and forbidding regions. Happier, indeed, is the lot of those born in more temperate climates, which alone are favourable to the full development of those attributes which alone give man that moral and intellectual importance which raises him so high in the scale of created beings.

#### SCOTCHMEN AND ENGLISHMEN.

We have observed that the human race, having migrated from the east, always proceeded to colonize the adjoining or neighbouring countries; thus Cyprus was peopled from the neighbouring country of Asia, Crete and Sicily from Greece, Zealand from Germany, Iceland from Norway. Britain, in like manner, derived its inhabitants from Gaul, the people of which, having crossed the channel, landed on its southern coast. These Gauls were descended from Gomer, the son of Japhet, and they derived their name from the Gomerite. Much dispute has existed concerning the origin of the word BRITAIN. The learned Camden was of opinion that it was derived from the practice which the ancient Britons had of painting their bodies; it having been with them the custom to call whatever was painted or coloured BRITIA; whence was derived the word BRITIAE, used by the Saxons, which was then turned into BRITTON, and afterwards into BRITAIN.

The ancient Briton is thus described by an old historian:—"The Britons are taller than the Gauls; their hair is not so yellow, and their bodies are looser built. In proof of their tallness, I must observe, that I saw at Rome some of their young men half a foot taller than the tallest men; their legs are weak, and the rest of their bodies far from well made." These ancient Britons adopted the superstitious rites of the Gauls, from whom they sprung; they lived in tents, they went uncovered, and were habituated to many barbarous customs. The method of staining their bodies, which they adopted, was that of burning into their flesh, certain marks, and then infusing into the burned part a deep dye as they could procure. This was done in very early infancy; the colour chosen was obtained from wood, which gives a deep blue; and the figures impressed were generally those of various animals. Living in this unprotected state, their island was invaded by the Romans; after which they were so much harassed by the incursions of the Picts and Scots from the north, that, unable to defend themselves against the fierce and rapacious attacks of their enemies, they invited over the Anglo-Saxons from Germany, to assist them in their emergency. But this turned out to have been very wretched policy; for no sooner had the Picts and Scots been driven back, than the Saxons turned their arms against the miserable Britons, put most of them to the sword, or compelled them to slavery, and then took possession of their country. In the midst of these calamities, many of the unhappy ancient Britons sought refuge in the western parts of the island, now called CORNWALL and WALES, where nature, by mountains and friths, seemed to open for them the path of protection. As every thing foreign was at that time called *Walsh*, these people soon derived the name of the Welsh, which they still retain. Thus did Britain become inhabited by the Anglo-Saxons; but the numerous nations which afterwards broke in upon them, and destroyed their constitution, together with the subsequent

division of the kingdom, peopled and governed by so many clans, have been the sources of confusion which perplex the most learned historian and antiquarian. While England thus became peopled, the Scots or Celtic tribe made their appearance in Ireland,\* whence they migrated into this country, and the first territory of which they took possession is supposed to have been Argyleshire.

Having thus given a general account of the origin of the inhabitants of this country—a digression which we thought would not be unacceptable to our readers—we may revert to the appearance of the external form and features of man in this climate; and yet this is scarcely necessary, as with these all of us cannot fail to be familiar. Yet are there some essential differences in the physiognomy, which amount almost to national peculiarities; insomuch, indeed, that he who leaves Scotland to make a tour through Ireland or England, will soon recognise the very marked differences observable in the persons of the people by whom he becomes surrounded. The frame of the Scotchman is, generally speaking, hardier, more robust, and stronger than that of the Englishman; we might almost assert that the bony skeleton of the one is made on a larger or stronger scale than that of the other—not that the difference may be appreciable in height, but in the compactness and strength of its construction. The people of Scotland have generally high cheek bones, and their features are strongly marked. The formation of their heads approaches much to what we observe among the Germans; that is, the skull is broad, and somewhat flattened at the back. The features of both the English and the Irish herein present a marked difference, not only in the character of the face, but also in that of the head. Their features are less strongly brought out; their cheek bones smaller; the head, too, has a different contour. Among the English, in particular, the head is more flattened at the sides, and less so in its posterior region; however, with them the upper part is commonly well developed. With the Irish the whole frame and countenance has a more active character; their features are more variable—we should rather say breathe a greater variety of expression—and their head presents a different configuration, having the upper region just above the forehead (especially among the lower classes) much depressed, and being narrower in breadth than either the English or Scotch. While the whole skeleton of the English seems more slender than that of the Scotch, the difference as in other nations is the more perceptible about the hands and feet. It is certainly the custom in Scotland to put children to walk at a much earlier period than they do in England, which, we have no doubt brings out into a stronger development the muscles of the ankle and foot. Among the lower classes, the practice of going barefooted also gives a coarse character to the feet; for it may be observed, that all those nations which pride themselves on having small and delicate feet, are careful to protect them from exposure. The Chinese, and especially the Circassians, always have their feet covered; the former wear, when going out, boots of silk, satin, or cotton, and, when at home, loose shoes or slippers made of silk stuff; the latter are especially careful in using a covering for their feet, to which is generally added, when they go abroad, wooden clogs.

#### THE INHABITANTS OF AFRICA.

Africa, unhappily by its very name, suggests to our mind many very painful associations, such as are inseparably connected with the recollection of those abominable atrocities which have been systematically committed for the purpose of enslaving and oppressing a great many of its defenceless natives, and such as are also necessarily excited by the memory of those enterprising and amiable men who sacri-

\* Ritson's *Annals of the Caledonians, Picts, and Scots.*

ficed their lives in vainly endeavouring to explore its sandy deserts, for the purpose of carrying the light of Christian truth into the habitations of those uneducated and unfortunate beings who live amidst the gloom of its impenetrable forests.

Africa, ranking next in respect to its size to Asia and America, was undoubtedly peopled originally by the descendants of the impious Ham; and while these constitute what may be called the native inhabitants, there are, besides, numerous races met with, which migrated from Arabia, and other Asiatic countries. Here we find Moors, Turks, Arabs, Jews, and various tribes, existing in a state of society that is involved in all the darkness which must ever attend on the want of christian civilization. We have not space to enter into a consideration of the condition of ancient Africa; here we shall speak only of the African negro, the slavery to which he has been subjected, and the improvement of which his moral and intellectual nature is susceptible.

#### THE AFRICAN NEGRO—NEGRO SLAVERY.

Not only have the African negroes been forced to submit to all the cruelties and degradations of political oppression, but even men of science, whose minds no prejudices should darken, have endeavoured to represent them as beings of an inferior order—a connecting link between man and the lower class of animals. But, indeed, no idea can be more false, certainly no prejudice more abominable, than this; for although his skin may be black, the heart that beats within his bosom still heaves and groans and bleeds under affliction, and is sensibly alive to every act of kindness and humanity. With the external form and appearance of the African negro, with his dark complexion, depressed forehead, woolly hair, flat nose, thick lips, we are all acquainted; but we must not thence conclude that his soul cannot be illumined by one ray of Christian charity, and that he is a being proscribed beyond the limits of all possible civilization. Such a confusion would not only be uncharitable, but false; for all travellers have agreed, that, notwithstanding the disadvantages under which they have laboured, notwithstanding the cruel despotism under which they have writhed, they often manifest some of the kindest feelings which can do honour to humanity. If, indeed, we for a moment ask ourselves wherefore they cannot be put on an equality with other civilized nations, we shall be sorely puzzled; for surely we do not recognise inherent disability in their depressed foreheads; for if so, how many of our own fellow countrymen would be disqualified for freedom, and sit only to wear the chains of slavery! Again: we surely cannot discover any cause for their perpetual degradation in the circumstance of their forearms being a little longer in proportion to the height of their bodies than our own, or in that of the calves of their legs being half an inch higher up; such reasons as these we should never dream of entertaining; therefore we are driven to the inevitable conclusion, that, although, like the inhabitants of other countries, they may always retain certain characteristic peculiarities, yet they must be as capable of being civilized as the barbarous Anglo-Saxons from whom we ourselves derive our origin. African negroes, under all the disparaging circumstances by which their progress has been retarded, have been known to make considerable intellectual advancement; thus they have been known in America to make sufficient money by their musical exertions to purchase their freedom. A negro named Hannibal, a colonel in the Russian Artillery, and another named Lislet, on account of their meteorological observations, were elected corresponding members of the French Academy. A negress at Yverdon is celebrated by Blumenbach for having made considerable progress, and acquired great dexterity in a particular practical department of medicine. A. W. Arne, an African from the coast of Guinea, in the year 1734, took his degree as doctor of medicine at the Wurtemberg university. John Capitien, who was bought by