

expiation of sins to consist in penances, than which fancy cannot suggest any thing more rigorous and absurd; in sitting or standing whole years in one unvaried posture; in carrying the heaviest loads, or dragging the most weighty chains; in exposing the naked body, and in hanging with the head downward before the fiercest and most intolerable fire."†

There is great reason to doubt that Mr. Orme, and many other writers, have been too partial to the character of the Hindoos. Dr. Robertson, in the appendix to his "Historical Disquisition concerning Ancient India," in his account of the religion of the Hindoos, says "The pagodas of the east were polluted with human sacrifices, as well as
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† See the concluding Sermon in Whites's Sermon's. London, printed, 1785. See a dissertation upon the Hindoos prefixed to "The History of Hindostan. By Alexander Dow, Esq." See also "Institutes of Hindu law." By the late Sir William Jones. If the reader will attend to these works, he must allow that a rational spirit of Christianity would be far preferable to the religious system of the Hindoos.