

deceased brother—choice of names adapted to circumstances and times—traditions.”*

Dr. E. Walsh, an Irish physician, who attended the army in Canada, was a believer in the Jewish origin of the Indians. To examine their manners and customs more minutely, he went to reside for some time at a Shawonese town, near Buffalo Creek. He rejects several of the resemblances of Adair as fanciful, but, from his own observation, confirms several others of them. The following are some of the circumstances he observes:—Their division into tribes, with chiefs, and emblematical distinctions, as the eagle, bear, wolf, &c. tribes; their religion, Theism, their government a theocracy; their being addicted to charms, prophecies, and revelations; their celebration of a rite somewhat similar to a passover; their laws of purification, and the separation of women at certain times; their traditions.

To several of these resemblances I could bear my own testimony; some of them are fanciful and far fetched; and perhaps the whole of them are such as might be discerned in most savage tribes, especially in those of oriental relationship. And this theory, warmly as it has been maintained, is falling to the ground.

The Indians think God created their forefathers here, and the white people in other parts of the world. They are probably of Asiatic origin; descendants of some tribe or tribes, cognate with the Tartar or Scythian race. That vast region comprising the northern portions of Europe and Asia was inhabited by immense hordes of men who were similar in their spirit, manners, and customs. Upon the decline of the Roman Empire, different tribes of this wandering race became the overrunners of the civilized parts of Europe, Asia, and Africa. And what is singular, it may, perhaps, be judged capable of proof, that they were the overrunners of America too. And what are now deemed the aborigines of America are probably the descendants of the same people. But with this difference, the original

* Dublin University Mag. 1834, p. 72.