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## NARCOTIC USAGES AND SUPERSTITIONS OF THE OLD AND NEW WORLD.

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In attempting to determine the elements on which to base a system of classification of the diverse types or varieties of man, there are frequently one or two prominent characteristics which, alike among ancient and modern races, appear to supply at least convenient tests of classification, while some are deserving of special consideration as indicators of more comprehensive and far-reaching principles. The ancient epithet "barbarian," had its origin in the recognition of this idea; and we still apply that of "woad-died" to the old Briton as the fittest which our knowledge of him supplies. With the Jew and his semitic congeners, the rite of circumcision is a peculiarly distinctive element of isolation, though carried by Islamism, with the Arabic tongue, far beyond their ethnic pale. Brahminism, Buddhism, Parseeism, Sabaism, Fetisism, and even Thuggism, each suffice to supply some elements of classification. The cannibal New Zealander, the large footed Patagonian, the big lipped Babeen, the flat-headed Chinook, the woolly-haired Negro, the clucking Hottentot, and the boomerang-armed Australian, has each his special feature, or peculiar symbol, more or less fitly assigned to him; and not less, but more distinctly characteristic than any of these