INTRODUCTION.

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n the otter, ed fox, the imals of the at were so er parts of settlements gly trouble-

added, that

they found the most delightful haunts for their humble but favorite navigation in the innumerable bays, creeks, rivers and ponds of the interior and the coast ; that these beautiful bodies of water swarmed with an exhaustless abundance of wild geese, ducks, wigeons, sheldrapes, broadbills, teal, and other fine water-fowl; and finally, that almost every excellent species of fish and shell-fish which the savage appetite might riot upon,—not the least esteemed of which was the salmon,—rewarded the slightest labor of the indolent native with an ample store of palatable and wholesome food.

The remarks we have made upon the natural advantages of Connecticut, as a residence for the Indians, apply, in many respects, to all the Middle and Southern States, as they are now called, along the Atlantic Coast, and to an immense interior territory beside. Hence there was found in Pennsylvania, New-Jersey, Delaware and Maryland, by the first colonists from Europe, a dense Indian population, living, for the most part, on the shores of the large bays and beautiful rivers of that section of the country, in all the luxury of wild abundance.

The Mohawks and four other tribes of New York, constituting the celebrated confederacy