

struck by this phenomenon, I interrogated her master, a slave merchant. I was informed by him that there existed, in Nigritia, Africa, a tribe called *Niam-Niams*; that all the members of his tribe bear the caudal appendix; and, as exaggeration is a necessity to the Oriental imagination, he assured me that he had seen tails two feet in length. The one observed by me was smooth and without hair, was two inches in length, and terminated in a point. The negress was black as ebony; her hair was crisped; her teeth were white, thick, and inserted upon the alveolar processes, strongly inclining outward. The four canines were filed; her eyes were injected with blood. She ate raw meat with much relish; clothes were disagreeable to her.

Her master had offered her for sale for six months, at an exceedingly low price, but was unable to sell her. The horror which she inspired not residing in her tail, but in her taste—which she took pains to conceal—for human flesh.

Her tribe eat the flesh of prisoners taken in battles with the neighbouring nations, with whom they are constantly at war.

When any of them die, the relatives, instead of interring the body, eat it; from this cause there are no cemeteries in the country.

They do not lead a wandering life; many of them construct huts in the branches of trees. They manufacture the implements of war and of agriculture—cultivating maize, grain, etc. Cattle are so bred by them.

The *Niam-Niams* have a language which is altogether primitive; it contains many Arabic words. They go entirely naked. The strongest among them becomes their chief; it is he who leads them to battle, and it is he who divides the booty. It is not known whether they have a religion; but it is probable they have not, from the very great facility with which they embrace any that is taught them. It is very difficult to civilize them, their instinct leading them always to search for human flesh. There are examples of slaves who have killed and then devoured the children of their masters who had been confided to their care.

I saw last year a man of this same race, having a tail one inch and a half long, covered with a few hairs. He seemed to be about fifty five years of age, was robust, of good constitution, ebony black, and had the same particular conformation of the lower jaw, seen of above, that is, the alveoles inclined outward. Their canines are filed in order to diminish their masticatory force.

The *Niam-Niams* are endowed with Herculean strength. The