

keep herds of sacred cattle. They are peaceful but brave, live in single families, forming no society or mutual bonds of kindred or security ; they migrate from hill to hill, with all the simplicity of the patriarchal ages : and few in number, those arrived at the age of puberty not exceeding six hundred ; and are apparently a remnant of some powerful and superior tribe, driven by persecution into the heart of the mountains.—*Chinese Courier*.



REMARKS ON THE COREAN LANGUAGE.*

“ THE civilization and literature of the greater part of eastern Asia originated in China. In China, first, characters were formed to express ideas ; in China, sages and lawyers lived and taught ; and from China, the other nations received their civil institutions. Corea, Japan, the Lewchew islands, Cochin-china, and Tonquin were successively reclaimed from barbarism.—When these several nations adopted the Chinese mode of writing they introduced also the original sounds of the characters ; but as their organs of speech differed widely from those of the Chinese, they were either unable to pronounce them correctly, or they confounded them with similar sounds in their own language, which were more familiar to their ears. We find, therefore, a great variety in the pronunciation of the Chinese characters, among all the nations who have adopted them as their medium of writing ; yet, even in this variety, there is a striking analogy with the pronunciation of the Chinese character in the Mandarin dialect, which is the true standard.

“ The more literature advanced, the more common the use of such phrases in the colloquial dialects became. Thus, though the spoken languages of the nations by whom Chinese characters were adopted, at first widely differed from the Chinese, yet they gradually became assimilated,—just as, by the adoption of Latin words and phrases among the barbarians who overthrew the Roman empire, their native tongue was gradually changed into a latinized jargon or *patois*. Nevertheless the Chinese

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