

could be preserved of the lineaments of the being that they loved. They chose for their burying-places situations most fitly adapted to give free play to these tender sentiments. Their sepulchres were placed in the most retired and beautiful spots amidst groves of oak and terebinth ; or they cut them out often with exquisite sculpture in the face of a mountain rock, where, to this day they are seen in thousands ; or they built over them temples, whose magnificent ruins still excite the wonder of the traveller ; or far up in some inaccessible ravine, like Petra, they consecrated a city of the dead, and repaired at intervals to contemplate amidst its silent majesty and its slumbering tenants the destiny that awaited themselves. Time has spared many of these monuments, but history contains few records of their moral influence. Yet from the congeniality of such funeral customs to the nature of man we may conclude that they were salutary.

And we are not without remarkable illustrations of this care for the dead, founded in that propensity of our nature to which we have adverted, even amidst heathen and barbarous nations. The Indians chose some favoured spot in the solitude of their forest, or on some beautiful promontory, or bay, for the sepulchre of their tribe. They raised a mound over their dust and would not permit it to be violated. They deem it a sore calamity to be driven from the region where it lies ; and when that sore calamity has happened, they have been