

overreach them. They will disguise their persons, and change their names, in order to defraud them of their lawful debts, which they are sometimes permitted to contract at the Hudson's Bay Company's Factory. Nor is there any way of rendering a Northern Indian either servicable to himself and the Company, but by keeping him at a distance; for the least indulgence, or apparent partiality, renders him indolent and troublesome, and puts him upon contriving methods to tax the generosity of those who have any dealings with him. But with all these bad qualities they are the mildest tribe of Indians that trade at any of the Company's settlements; and as they are never heated with liquor, they are always in their senses, and never proceed to riot, or any violence beyond bad language. And, notwithstanding they are so covetous, and pay no regard to private property, but take every advantage of bodily strength to rob their neighbours, not only of their goods, but of their wives, yet, let their losses or affronts be ever so great, they never seek any other revenge than that of wrestling. Murder is seldom heard of among them. A murderer is shunned and detested by all the tribe, and is obliged, like another Cain, to wander up and down, forlorn and forsaken even by his own relations and former friends.

Among the Northern Indians the men are very jealous of their wives, and the same spirit probably reigns among the women; but they are kept so much in awe of their husbands, that the liberty of thinking is the greatest privilege which they enjoy. The presence of a Northern Indian man strikes a peculiar awe into his wives, as he always assumes the same authority over them that the master of a family in Europe usually does over his domestic servants.

The Northern Indians, living in such an inhospitable part of the globe, are, for want of firing, obliged to eat