

Religion, as a rule of life, has not yet begun to dawn among the northern Indians, superstitious as they are. Yet they think and speak respectfully of the devotion of others; and some of them are not unacquainted with the history of the great Author of Christianity. Matonabee, who, our author says, was one of the best informed and sensible men he ever knew among them, gave the following account of his countrymen.—“ Their only object is to consult their interest, inclinations, and passions; and to pass through this world with as much ease and contentment as possible, without any hopes of reward, or painful fear of punishment in the next.” These are the sentiments and the objects of the irreligious in all countries, however much policy may teach them to disguise their thoughts.

When the aurora borealis is very bright, and varying much in form, colour, and situation, they say their deceased friends are very merry; but the immortality of the soul is by no means a general belief among the northern Indians; though their southern neighbours have certainly some faint ideas of it. Yet they are very superstitious with respect to the existence of several kinds of furies, whom they call Nant-e-na, and whom they pretend sometimes to see. These are