

ment relative to crimes committed in the same cabin. The Indians that have had a long intercourse with Europeans seem to be greatly degenerated, both in physical and mental qualities. Those of different nations, and from different parts of America connected with Canada, come annually to Quebec, to Montreal, and to other military posts, to receive the presents which the governments annually distribute amongst them; and they are thus described by a recent traveller:— 'Conceive to yourself a parcel of men, women, and children, huddled together under a wigwam, formed of pieces of wood, seven or eight feet in length, the ends fixed in the ground, and meeting at the top, form a kind of sloping frame, which is covered with the bark of the birch-tree, to keep out the inclemencies of the weather—a very poor covering indeed! They are *half* naked, *wholly* covered with dirt and oily paints, and swarming with vermin; diminutive, and weakly in their persons and appearance; and having a physiognomy, in which you look in vain for traces of intelligence. I do not mean to say that they are without the reasoning faculty, but they certainly are very stupid. I understand that their numbers decrease every year;—if they were wholly extinct, I do not think that human nature would be a great sufferer by it.'

The ravages occasioned amongst the aborigines of America by the effect of spirituous liquors and the small-pox, added to the gradual encroachments of civilized states, must, at no very distant period, annihilate the whole race. Several tribes have already become extinct; and others, once very powerful, are much reduced. The Society of Friends, in the United States, have lately sent proper persons amongst the Indians, in order to teach them the arts of agriculture and civilized life. Those who resign the practice of war and hunting, and apply themselves to the culture of the soil, may preserve the existence of a part of the native race, long after their peculiar habits are lost and forgotten.

FINIS.