

CHAPTER I.

INDIAN CHARACTER:

NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS SUPERIOR TO OTHER
PAGANS IN INTELLECT, VALOUR, FRIENDSHIP,
ELOQUENCE—INDIANS DISTINGUISHED IN AME-
RICAN WAR OF 1812—CENSUS TAKEN IN 1851.

THE Indian character, in its unadulterated grandeur, is most admirable and attractive. Before it is polluted by the pernicious example of others,—the demoralizing and debasing influence of wicked white men,—the genuine North American pagan presents to the world the most noble specimen of the natural man that can be found on the face of the earth. Just compare the North American Indian with the frigid Laplander, the silly Hindoo, the stupid Hottentot or African, and he rises in manly and intellectual grandeur. In the contrast he is elevated in the scale of human greatness. In spirit he is free as the eagle that soars above the highest peak of the lofty mountains. He is undaunted as the lion that roams as monarch of the plain; and as active as the deer that bounds through the immeasurable forest.