

modern, and in the cabalistic interpretation and promulgation of the laws of God and man. I may say that while I would confine myself as closely as possible to my own thoughts and language, I make no claim to originality; at least, none save that which bears in mind that all are original just in proportion as all are ignorant, and that for me or anyone else to expect to think exclusively of things that have escaped the observation of the watchful hosts who are moving by or that have gone past, would be as palpably unjust to them, and, indeed, as erroneous and absurd an assumption of pristine right as for a lost tribe of interior Africa to send a deputation thence across the boundaries into civilization, and following the example of more enlightened nations, lay claim to desirable localities by right of discovery. Ah, we don't know that they may not in course of time, when all we have thought and done shall have degenerated into apathy and forgetfulness, and need brushing up and renovating by some ingenious people at present fasting in ignorance and barbaric seclusion. Even now, it must be admitted, in the jungle of mental darkness which they inhabit, these latter would be discoverers, and in the open-mouthed, stupid amazement of their dusky brethren and of their "Ferdinand and Isabella," enjoy, as explorers, the same enviable distinction as do our own immortal Columbus and Jacques Cartier. But the reason is they live in intellectual as well as physical nakedness, and know no more about the world beyond their horizon than is evolved in the native progress of eating, drinking and sleeping as observed in their peculiar manner of liv-