

killed at the same place, were amongst the most distinguished chiefs and warriors of their nation.

The big Indian was magnanimous, as well as brave. He, more than any other individual, contributed, by his example and influence, to the good character of the Wyandots, for lenity towards their prisoners. He would not suffer them to be killed or ill treated. This mercy to captives, was an honourable distinction in the character of the Wyandots, and was well understood by our first settlers, who, in case of captivity, thought it a fortunate circumstance to fall into their hands.

It is consoling to the historian, to find instances of those endowments of mind, which constitute human greatness, even among savages. The original stamina of those endowments, or, what is called *genius*, are but thinly scattered over the earth, and there can be but little doubt, but that the lower grades of society possess their equal proportion of the bases of moral greatness, or in other words, there is as much of *native genius*, in proportion to numbers, amongst savages, as there is amongst civilized people.—The difference between these two extremes of society, is merely the difference of education.—This view of human nature, philosophically correct, is well calculated to increase the benevolence, even of the good Samaritan himself, and encourage his endeavours, for the instruction of the most ignorant, and the reformation of the most barbarous.

Had the aborigines of our country, been possessed of science to enable them to commit to the faithful page of history, the events of their

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