

pose of effecting by deception what they were unable to do by open and honorable warfare.

It has been thought that every invention that ingenuity could contrive had been used for the purpose of destroying the poor Indians; but it seems that a new plan has been adopted, which puts humanity to the blush, and leaves all other means heretofore adopted far in the back ground. Agents have been sent to Havana, to purchase a large number of blood hounds; these have been brought over at a great expense, and trained to track and hunt down the Indians. Fortunately, however, for the cause of humanity, the experiment has proved to be an entire failure. The Spaniards made use of these animals in their conquests of the Indians in South America; and it is said that they are now employed by them in their West India Islands to hunt for run-away slaves, who secret themselves in the mountains; but it is believed no one ever before thought it possible, that such a barbarous and inhuman practice would ever have been introduced into this country.

The war in Florida having been continued for so great a length of time, and been conducted with such a variety of defeats and successes, with the many negotiations that have taken place, and agreements entered into, which were declared to have put an end to all further difficulties, that the subject has created very little interest in the public mind; but has been treated rather as a matter for ridicule than as requiring any serious consideration. For the last two years occasional accounts have been published in the papers, of Indian murders, with now and then a skirmish, in which two or three Indians have been killed, and a few squaws and papooses taken prisoners; but nothing has been done that in the least has changed the situation of affairs. The war has been put an end to so many times, that the phrase "Florida war ended," has become a standing joke. Yet it is a matter of the most serious nature, and our government is bound in honor, and for the cause of humanity, to take some decisive steps to do justice to the Indians and bring about a speedy and honorable termination of all difficulties.

In preparing this chapter for the press we have en-