

the end of the fishing season to Europe, where they remain during the long winter. Of the permanent settlers, "the lower classes are generally composed of turbulent Irishmen, whose unwearied industry during the fishing season in summer, is forcibly contrasted with their unbounded licentiousness in winter. Indeed all ranks of society appear to consider debauchery as the only antidote to the *tadium vite*, which prevails between the month of December and the recommencement of the fishery in the May following."* Of the number of Europeans in either summer or winter I can find no estimate on which we can rely. A colony of Miemacs, settled in Saint George's bay, emigrants from Cape-Breton and the neighbouring parts, are indigenous Americans, though not aboriginals of Newfoundland. They have so intermarried with Europeans that in 1813, the number of purely indigenous exceeded not fifty persons of all ages and both sexes. Indeed the whole of the inhabitants around this bay, amounted not to more than two hundred and nine. The truly indigenous, termed Red Indians from a red colour with which they tinge the hair and skin, are extremely few, inhabiting the interior, and the northeastern, northern, and northwestern parts. Barbarously treated by ignorant fishermen, these savages, who at first were found friendly and obliging, have conceived so implacable an enmity to Europeans as completely to avoid all kinds of intercourse with them. They "study the art of concealment so effectually, that, although often heard, they are seldom seen:"† and, when seen, they run away, and expertly disguise their tracks from the discovery of pursuers.

* Chappell, p. 52.

† Idem, p. 180.