

heart of stone ; the fatal grasp is made ; the knife is plunged to the heart, and the infernal shout announces the silence of the devoted victim ; it is immediately cut into pieces ; a reeking parcel is given to each of the guests, who, like dogs, seize the quivering flesh, and while they devour it, the blood runs from the mouth warm as in the current of life.

Notwithstanding these, or other habitual cruelties ; they furnish no unequivocal facts, by which to determine the general character of the Indians. They are, indeed acts, than which none, human or brutal, are more shocking, or more to be deprecated : they would be deprecated, and held in utter abhorrence by the perpetrators themselves, were they endowed with the mental cultivation of white men. But these things evince a disposition no more depraved, than that of thousands in the most enlightened countries, practising crime in every form, and with every degree of atrocity. For, when a man, of a corrupt education, either from accident or design, becomes familiar with the business of shedding blood, whether of an enemy or a brother, he can pursue it with system and with a degree of self approbation.

It is not going too far, in the vindication of the Indian character, to say, that all, who are just themselves, and have had opportunities of familiar intercourse, have found them an inoffensive people, adhering to their notions of right and wrong ; courteous and kind to strangers ; amiable and obliging to one another. Let them be dealt with fairly, and a more hospitable and better disposed race of men cannot be found.

ADVANTAGES OF SETTLING THE OREGON COUNTRY.

The local position of that country ; its physical appearance and productions ; its qualities of soil and climate, suggest, not only the practicability of founding a colony in it ; but the consequent beneficial results to our Republic ; and the many valuable blessings it might be made to yield to the settlers, and to their posterity. The expense of the