

the limits of the present United States. Robbed by the whites, and murdered and oppressed by the savages, they lingered for a time around their council fire, but finally broke off in bands, and sought refuge in the western wilds. Like the lustre of the dying lamp, their glory shone the brightest as they were about to become extinct.

Much more might be said concerning this interesting people, especially of their later history, but it is believed not to be essential to the plan of the present work. Since the death of the pious, the venerable, and the experienced Heckewelder, a fund of information of this nature has been extinguished, which it is feared can never again be collected in one individual. He laboured long and ardently on their behalf, and not less to vindicate their fame, than to improve their moral condition.

With this brief introduction to his subject, then, the author commits his book to the reader. As, however, candour, if not justice, requires such a declaration at his hands, he will advise all young ladies, whose ideas are usually limited to the four walls of a comfortable drawing-room ; all single gentlemen of a certain age, who are under the influence of the winds ; and all clergymen, if they have the volume in hand with intent to read it, to abandon the design. He gives his advice to such young ladies, because, after they have read the book, they will surely pronounce it shocking ; to the bachelors, as it might disturb their sleep ; and to the reverend clergy, because they might be better employed.