

supposed to take. This solemnity, like every other, is attended with feasting. The funeral being ended, the relations of the deceased confine themselves to their huts, for a considerable time, to indulge their grief. After an interval of some weeks, they visit the grave, repeat their sorrow, new-clothe the remains of the body, and act over again all the solemnities of the funeral.

To such extremes do the Indians push their friendship or their enmity; and such indeed, in general, is the character of all strong and uncultivated minds.

Religion is not the prevailing character of Indians; and except ^{their own} when they have some immediate occasion for the assistance of their gods, they pay them no sort of worship. Like all other rude nations, however, they are strongly addicted to superstition. They believe in the existence of a number of good and bad spirits, who interfere in the concerns of mortals, and produce all our happiness or misery. It is from the evil spirits, in particular that our diseases, they imagine, proceed; and it is to the good spirits we are indebted for a cure.

Such, in general, are the customs and manners of the Indian nation; but almost every tribe has something peculiar to itself.

The following statement as to their population in the United States is from the American Almanac, 1831. ^{Their population in the U. S.}

Number of Indians within the United States, as estimated by the War Department.

Within		Within	
New England and Virginia,	2,573	Michigan Peninsula, . . .	9,340
New York,	4,820	Arkansas Territory, . . .	7,200
Pennsylvania,	300	Florida Territory, . . .	4,000
North Carolina	3,100	North-west or Huron Ter. .	20,200
South Carolina	300	Between the Mississippi and the	
Georgia	5,000	Rocky Mountains, exclusive	
Tennessee,	1,000	of the states of Louisiana	
Alabama,	19,200	and Missouri, and Arkansas	
Mississippi,	23,100	Territory,	94,000
Louisiana,	939	Within the Rocky Mountains,	20,000
Ohio,	1,877	West of the Rocky Mountains	
Indiana,	4,050	between Lat. 44° and 49°, .	80,000
Illinois,	5,900		
Missouri,	5,631	Total within the U. States,	313,130

The climate of North America is various; that part lying north of latitude 50°, is a cold, barren, and desolate region. The part between 30° and 50° is subject to extremes of heat and cold. South of latitude 30° the climate is warm, producing the principal tropical fruits in abundance. ^{Climate.}

UNITED STATES

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

THE territory of the United States embraces the middle division of North America, extending from the Atlantic ocean on the east to the Pacific on the west. Its extreme length from the Pacific ocean to Passamaquoddy Bay, is 3,000 miles; its greatest breadth, from the southern point of Florida, to the Lake of the Woods, is estimated to be 1,700 miles. ^{Extent and boundaries, &c.} On the north-east, a conventional line divides it from New Brunswick, extending from Passamaquoddy Bay northward to the 48th parallel, embracing the head waters of the river St. John. From this extreme northern point, the boundary line passes along the ridge of mountains south-westward to the 45th parallel, and then along this parallel till it strikes the St. Lawrence, 120 miles