

This, it must be confessed, savours somewhat of the olden time,—of those times when Francis the First pronounced the Indians of America to be “without the knowledge of God, and without the use of reason:”—when Henry the Fourth denounced them as “atheists sunk in ignorance and infidelity”—and when our own Act of Parliament pleasantly preambled upon the “charms sorceries, and Satanical delusions” of the infidel salvage. But, with reference to these abominations of the Osages, would it not have been wiser to have recommended to the government of the United States to begin by reforming its own white traders, than thus to have reviled the Indians for card-playing and uttering oaths in broken English, the meaning of which they probably did not understand, and to the use of which they could ascribe no sinfulness or immorality?

It is not under such a system that we may expect “to reduce the savage nations, by just and gentle manners, to the love of civil society and the Christian religion.”\* The Christian missionary of the present day may not, perhaps, be disposed to inveigh against the Indians with the coarse and unbecoming language resorted to by many of the early preachers who attempted their conversion; but this is not sufficient; he ought to evince, in every respect

\* Royal Charter to William Penn.