

make trial of the courage and patience of their male children, have at times been known to sear their bodies with a red-hot iron, or to expose them, when naked, to the flames of a slow consuming fire.

Remittent and intermittent fevers are to be met with amongst the Indians. The latter disease is confined chiefly to the time of infancy, adults almost never suffering from its attacks. It is, therefore, probable that the greasy substances with which they are accustomed to anoint their skins, may tend in some measure to protect their bodies against the effluvia of the marshes. Acute inflammations sometimes seize the internal parts of their frame. Such affections when seated in the lungs or intestines often prove fatal to the Indians.

Variola is reported by travellers to have been extremely destructive to the *aborigines* of the new continent. Some individuals amongst them bear on their skins the marks of this disease. The inflammatory symptoms of this wasteful distemper are highly