

they seem to have no notion ; but in the right hand, a small rod or wand, which they use; not so much to assist them in walking, as in the management of their herds.

The women are of a stature proportionate to that of the men, but of complexion generally some shades lighter, the consequence, perhaps, of less exposure to the weather. With a strongly feminine cast of the same expressive features as the men, most of them, and particularly the younger, have beautiful long black tresses, which flow in unrestrained luxuriance over the neck and shoulders.

“ With a modest and retiring demeanor, they are perfectly free from the ungracious and menial-like timidity of the generality of the sex of the low country ; and enter into conversation with a stranger, with a confidence and self possession becoming in the eyes of Europeans, and strongly characteristic of a system of manners and customs widely differing from those of their neighbours.

“ They wear necklaces of twisted hair or black thread, with silver clasps, and here and there a bead, and suspended to them bunches of cowry shells, which hang down from the back of the neck between the shoulders. On the arms, immediately above the elbow, they wear a pair of armlets of brass, those of the right arm being much larger than those of the left ; silver bracelets are on the wrists ; and on the fingers and thumbs of each hand, a number of rings of various descriptions. They also wear a zone round the waist composed of a sort of chain work, of either silver or a mixed metal resembling brass.

“ The upper garment, or mantle, resembles that of the men : but it is worn differently, and, reaching to the feet, envelopes the whole frame.

“ This attire, is by no means graceful ; it gives them an unfeminine and mummy-like appearance ; and neither they nor the men having any pretensions to cleanliness, this wrapper is from that circumstance often rendered still more unseemly.