

customs ; form the great resemblance in complexion, figure, manners, and even language, which these people, and those on the islands in the Pacific bear to the inhabitants * of the island of Cracatoa, laying in the entrance of the straits of Sunda ; an important inference may be drawn towards accounting for the origin of the aboriginal inhabitants of the North West coast of America.

The fact of the dogs, which are wholly domestic, and the constant and inseparable companions of the Indians, being the same species of dogs in the East Indies, does much in settling this question.

Many, if not all the tribes north of De Fuca straits, were once cannibals. It is believed, however, that for many years past, their sanguinary appetites have been not so well set, and that they have abandoned a practice the most horrid, and the most shocking to human nature.

They were in the habit of killing and eating a part of those, whom the fortune of war had put into their hands, and whom they held as slaves. One of these unhappy victims was sacrificed every moon, or as often as the occurrence of their festival days, in the following manner. A part or the whole, of the slaves are collected at the sovereign chief's house, where they are compelled to join in the music and the dance. The inferior chiefs sing the war song, dance round the fire, throwing oil into it, to make larger the flame. In the midst of this hellish mirth, the principal chief, dressed and painted in savage costume ; and in the appearance of a ghastly demon, enters blindfolded ; in this state he pursues the unhappy wretches, whose struggles and shrieks to escape his fearful hold create an awful moment of confusion, and thrill with horror the

* See Capt. Cook's Voyages.

NOTE.....It is probable that the dispersion of the Jews, effected, in part the settlement of some of the islands in the Indian Ocean, and that the wars between the Chinese and Tartars which were continued, from 200 to about 86 years before Christ, kept the inhabitants of these two countries as well as those of the contiguous islands in constant distress and jeopardy of their rights. These sons of Jacob, therefore, might have been induced to migrate to islands in the Pacific farther remote from the seat of oppression.