

their immaturity, their methods of reasoning and their standards. They are observant and quick to appreciate cause and effect, so they learn readily, and being obedient make pleasant pupils and satisfactory servants.

Before being degraded by the white man's influence the Abenakis were highly moral. They were honest, truthful and just; hospitable to a fault and unswerving in fidelity to their friends. They are still hospitable, and the best of them are honest and faithful. In the old times the women were peculiarly moral. Married women were rarely inconstant and maidens were never unchaste.

They were revengeful; it was born in them, and from their mother's lips they learned it was their duty to pay back wrong with wrong. They tortured captives, but that was from superstition more than from lack of humaneness. They were extremely kind to their old people and to the unfortunate. Their hospitality was unlimited, and to this day they never turn away from their wigwams those who apply to them for food or shelter.

Their code of warfare was a savage code—they knew none other—but they never went to war for the mere glory of scalp taking nor from love of conquest. They were strong men who faced death with calmness and courage, but they were also tender and affectionate and cared for wives and children with great devotion. Their reserve is proverbial, but is due to their extreme bashfulness in the presence of strangers, their dread of ridicule to which they are peculiarly sensitive, and their respect for those who they deem superiors. When among intimates they converse with ease and volubility; repartee is much enjoyed, and their conversation is spirited and not unfrequently very mirthful.

The writer well remembers in his boyhood's time many pleasant days spent at Gagetown, upon the St. John River, his constant and only companion, Sabatis, an Indian boy of about his own age.

Summer after summer, in fishing, canoeing, swimming, and raft and camp building the days were spent. Delightful they were in the reality, and delightful still in the recollection. Upon many a sultry afternoon, after retiring to some sandy and secluded spot upon the river bank, and devoid of what little clothing the usages of society required, did the youthful braves paddle and swim about in the tepid water until its chilling influence compelled a