

dering their bodies able to resist the causes of disease. Their children suffer little or nothing from sickness during the period of dentition. After birth they are daily immersed in cold water, that their bodies may be early accustomed to support the vicissitudes of heat and cold, from which they suppose a number of their diseases to originate. They are also swathed to a board for several months, upon which they sleep more frequently in the erect, than in the recumbent posture. From this mode of treatment is derived the peculiar shape of their lower extremities, which I have already mentioned. This board is employed by every female of the North American Indians in the rearing of her offspring, and seems to have been originally intended to facilitate their removal from one place to another. For eighteen months after birth, every child is supported solely by its mother's milk, no other food being administered till it is provided with teeth to masticate a more nutritious aliment. Parents, to