

have explored the western wilds, and planted their establishments over a tract of country, some thousands of miles in extent. They have made the savages of the wilderness tributary to the comforts of civilized society; and in many instances, they have exhibited a surprising fortitude, in exposing themselves to hardship and to danger.

The souls of the Indians are of more value than their furs; and to raise this people in the scale of intellectual existence, to surround them with the comforts of civilization, to rescue them from the gloom of superstition, to mould their hearts to christian kindness, and to cheer their dying hour with a well founded hope of immortal glory and blessedness, constitutes an aggregate of good sufficient to call forth exertion for their relief. The time is rapidly coming, when christian benevolence will emulate the activity and perseverance, which have long been displayed in commercial enterprizes; when no country will remain unexplored by the heralds of the cross, where immortal souls are shrouded in the darkness of heathenism, and are perishing for lack of vision. The wandering and benighted sons of our own forests,

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