

bundles of reeds, or strong grass, and binding them together at one end, they open them at the other, and fitting them to their heads, they are covered as with a large cap, which like a pent-house throws off the rain, and will keep them dry for several hours. During the warm season, they form a shed with the branches of trees, which protects them from the sultry rays of the sun. When exposed to cold they make large fires, round which they sleep in the open air. *Historia de los triunfos de nuestra santa feé entre gentes las mas barbaras, &c.* por P. And. Perez de Ribas, p. 7, &c.

NOTE LXXVIII. p. 373.

THESE houses resemble barns. We have measured some which were a hundred and fifty paces long, and twenty paces broad. Above a hundred persons reside in some of them. Wilson's Account of Guiana. Purch. Pilgr. vol. iv. p. 1263. Ibid. 1291. The Indian houses, says M. Barrere, have a most wretched appearance, and are a striking image of the rudeness of early times. Their huts are commonly built on some rising ground, or on the banks of a river, huddled sometimes together, sometimes straggling, and always without any order. Their aspect is melancholy and disagreeable. One sees nothing but what is hideous and savage. The uncultivated fields have no gaiety. The silence which reigns there, unless when interrupted by the disagreeable notes of birds, or cries of wild beasts, is extremely dismal. *Relat. de la France Equin.* p. 146.

NOTE LXXIX. p. 375.

SOME tribes in South America can send their arrows to a great distance, and with considerable force, without the aid of the bow. They make use of a hollow reed, about nine feet long, and an inch thick, which is called a *Sarbacane*. In it they lodge a small arrow, with some unspun cotton wound about its great end; this confines the air, so that they can blow it with astonishing rapidity, and a sure aim,

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