

some journeys of several days, without suffering any other emotions to arise, than those of regret, for having lost persons who were so dear to them in their lives. When all the bodies are collected together, they are dressed in the finest skins they can procure; the feast is held; their greatest actions are celebrated, and all the tender intercourses that took place between them are recounted. A large pit is dug in the ground, and the bodies reinterred with pomp, with mourning, and with lamentation.

The Indians of America hold a future state of existence; they make an offering of their first fruits; some seem to hold in veneration the sun and moon. They have their priests, their conjurers, their fortune-tellers and doctors, who are regarded by the credulous, as possessed of supernatural powers. They regard dreams, and the singing and flying of birds, as omens of future events. Some tribes are peaceful and averse to the bloody business of battles, others sacrifice or devour their prisoners of war. Some derive much of their food from the waters, others principally feast upon venison; some wear skins of beasts, some a kind of cloth which they make from cotton, and others hardly use any covering at all. Before they were visited by the Europeans, their tools and arms were like those of the South Sea islanders, with the addition of the bow and arrows; like the islanders also, some of them disfigure their bodies, to make themselves look fine; they bore the nose, the lips, and cheeks, they draw down their ears to touch their shoulders, and by pressure they deform the whole head.

## SECTION VII.

### LANDS ROUND THE NORTH POLE.

Having now completed an imaginary tour, round, by far the greatest part of the earth, and observed a variety of manners and of men; before we make our descent on the polished nations of Europe, we may lessen our airy flight, and sweeping a smaller circle on the north, survey the nations of little people that surround the Northern Pole.

1. *Superstitions of the Greenlanders.*] These nations seem generally immersed in the grossest superstitions, from Greenland the most eastern part of North America, westward, round the globe, across the northernmost wilds of America, Tartary, and the tracts of Lapland which form the farthest parts of Europe, that are washed by the Frozen or Hyperborean ocean. To the regions beyond the grave, these romantic people transfer the employments which give them delight while here upon earth. There they imagine, in the abysses of the sea, an elysium of perpetual summer, of plenty of seals, reindeer and wild fowl, that are to be hunted without toil, that are even  
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