

THE
LITTLE
TRAVELLER.



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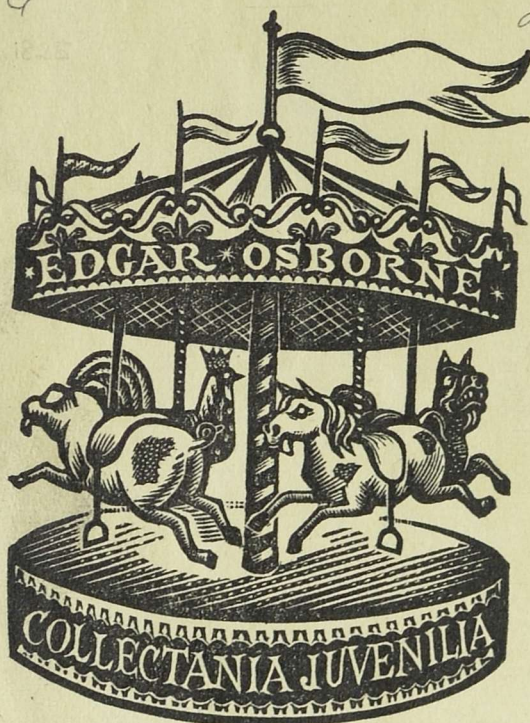
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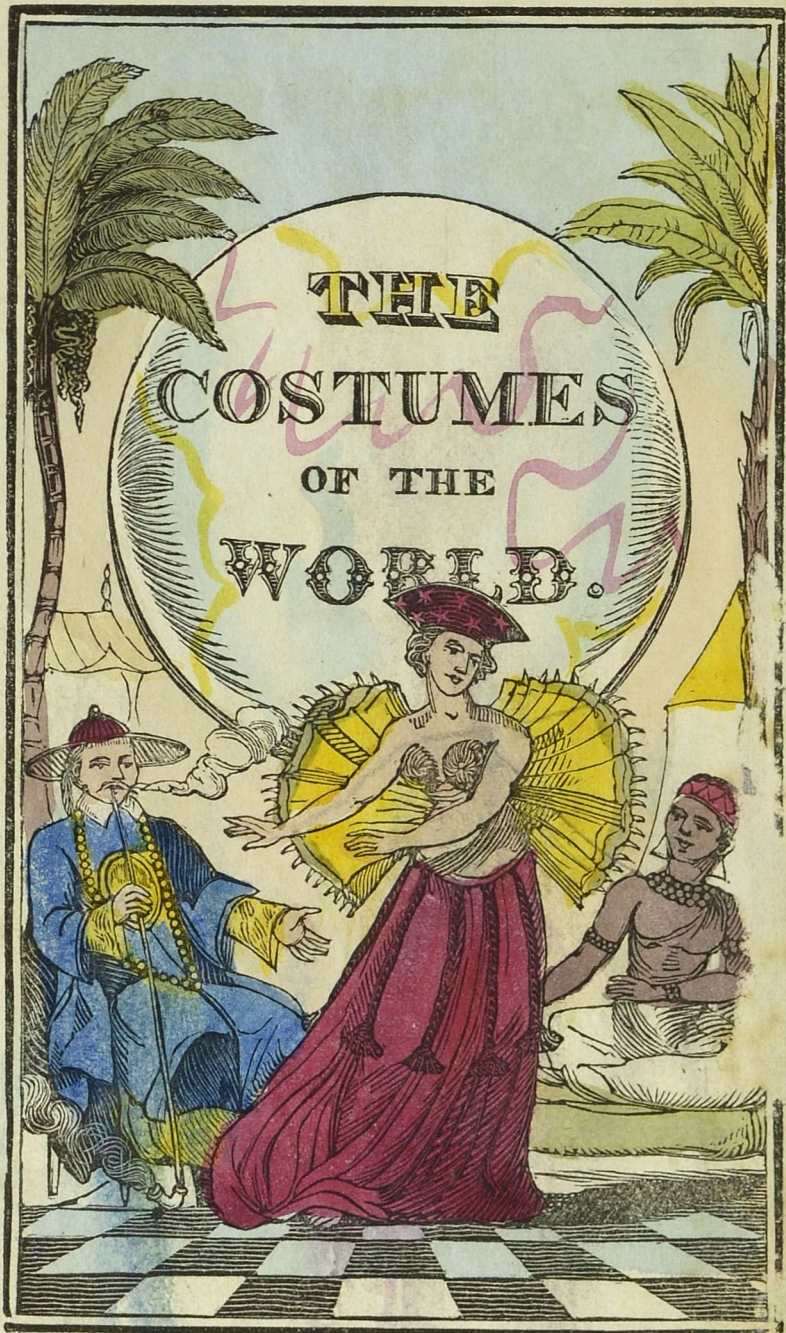
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THE
COSTUMES
OF THE
WORLD.

1861

PLINTS



CHINESE.

OTAHEITEAN.

NEGRO.

THE
LITTLE TRAVELLER;

OR, A SKETCH OF THE
VARIOUS NATIONS OF THE WORLD:

REPRESENTING
THE COSTUMES,

AND DESCRIBING THE
Manners and Peculiarities of the Inhabitants.

EMBELLISHED WITH
FIFTEEN BEAUTIFULLY COLOURED ENGRAVINGS.

By J. STEERWELL, JUN. R.N.

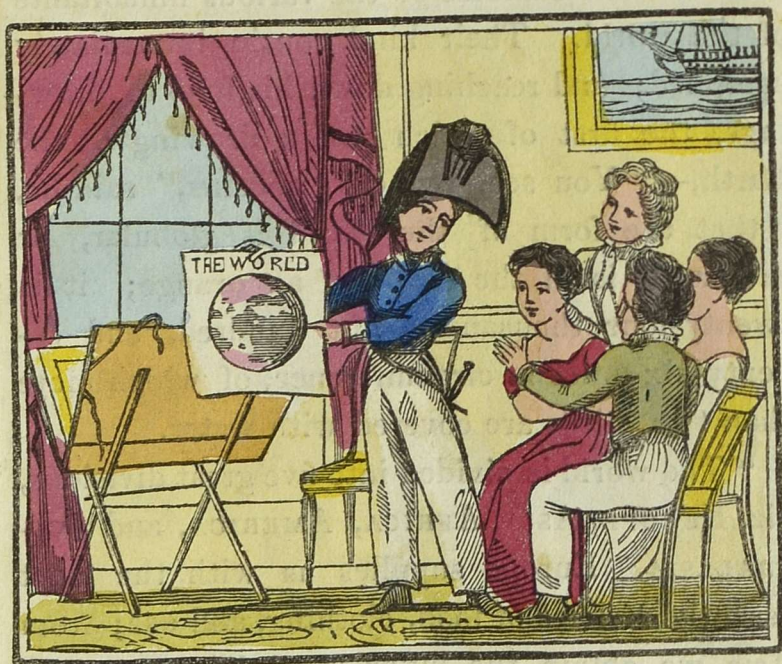


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THE LITTLE TRAVELLER.



THE PARTY.

ON the arrival of James Steerwell to his native country, after having been in every quarter of the world, his cousins, William and Henry Steerwell, and their sisters, Eliza and Jane, came to pay their respects to him on his happy return.

After many kind enquiries on both sides, and mutual congratulations on their happy meeting, the little party of visitors claimed the fulfilment of a promise made by their cousin, that he would

indulge them with a sight of his drawings of the costumes, and give them a description of the manners and customs of the various inhabitants of the world. Their kind cousin immediately complied; and reaching down his folio of drawings, the first of which was a drawing of the Earth,—“ You see, my dear cousins,” said he, “ that the form of the world is globular, or rather, it is of the shape of an orange; it is twenty-four thousand, eight hundred, and seventy-six miles in circumference, of which more than two thirds are covered with water.

“ The world is divided into five great divisions, viz. EUROPE, ASIA, AFRICA, AMERICA, and AUSTRALASIA. Europe supplies us with the most essential articles of food, clothing, and use; from Asia we obtain the luxuries of life, the most splendid articles of dress, and the most costly gems; Africa furnishes us with the precious metals, with ivory, and with those valuable and beautiful skins, which adorn the robes of the noble and the fair; and America supplies us with many articles which add to our comforts and increase our conveniences. Australasia is of too modern a date to be of much service yet to us; but it takes from us those persons who, having offended the laws of their country, are exiled from its soil; and is also a market for many of our principal manufactures.”

LAPLANDERS.



“Now, my dear cousins,” said the little traveller, “I shall begin with the most northern part of Europe, which is Lapland; a country, which, during the greater part of the year, is covered with snow: in some parts there are forests of fir-trees, of an immense extent, with here and there a pasture for the rein-deer, which animal supplies to the poor Laplander the place of the horse, the cow, the sheep, and the goat.

The winters in Lapland are very severe, the sun being entirely absent for seven weeks toge-

ther; but it is not dark: the moon and stars shine with splendour on the pure bright snows, and, with the beautiful Aurora Borealis, give light sufficient for all the purposes of a Lapland life.

The Laplanders are very small in stature, varying from four feet to four feet eight inches high; they are generally broad set, with flat faces, dark eyes and hair, and wide mouths; their complexion is of a dark yellowish brown.

They wear a small cap, pointed at the top, and edged with fur; their outer dress is fastened round the waist with a girdle, to which they tie their implements for obtaining fire, also a knife, a pipe, and tobacco-box; and in a little leather bag they carry a sort of pantaloons, which, when on, reach down to their feet, and tie round over their boots.

The dress of the women is similar to that of the men, except that they often wear a small apron, and ear-rings in their ears; from which are suspended chains of silver, which pass several times about their necks.—They are particularly fond of all kinds of finery.

The Laplanders in disposition are hospitable, generous, and courageous. They live in little huts, and, when they travel, they are drawn in sledges, by rein-deer.



HIGHLANDERS.

The Scotch are generally tall, large-boned, and strong; robust in constitution, able to endure incredible hardship and fatigue: with an adventurous spirit, they are by nature warlike, and in battle, as well as on all other occasions, display themselves as a brave and heroic people.

The favourite instrument of music with the Scotch, is the bag-pipe, which in war raises the Highlander's spirit to the highest pitch; it is used also to celebrate marriages, in funeral processions, and on all other important occasions.

The dress of the Highlanders is no less singular than picturesque: The Highland plaid is composed of woollen stuff, of various colours, generally green and red, forming stripes which cross each other, and produce a very pleasing effect, they wear, also, a jacket or vest, and a kind of short, full petticoat, called the kilts, that leaves the knee bare; the stockings, or hose, are also plaided with scarlet and white, and do not reach up to the knee, but are tied round the calf of the leg with scarlet garters; their head-dress consists of a flat bonnet of blue, bound round also with scarlet and white plaid, and adorned generally with feathers.

The women, as you see in the picture, wear a plaided jerkin with straight sleeves, over which they frequently throw a plaid similar to that of the men. Formerly, every clan was distinguished by its peculiar plaid; but since the Union, the Scotch dress has become more general, and distinction less attended to.

The Scotch are faithful in their friendship, and strict in their morals; this is attributable to the general diffusion of learning throughout Scotland.

DUTCH.



The Dutch are the native inhabitants of the seven United Provinces of Batavia, or Holland. They are of good stature, and inclined to be corpulent; their features are regular, and they have fair and ruddy complexions. In their dress they are clean and neat, but both men and women load themselves with an enormous quantity of clothes, without taste or elegance; but it must be acknowledged that their dress is well adapted to their damp climate.

Navigable canals run through most of the

streets of the Dutch towns, the banks of which are rendered very pleasant, by rows of trees planted on them, under which, in the summer, multitudes of people promenade: the walks generally lead to a tavern, or public tea-gardens, where they meet with a variety of entertainments, and that at so cheap a rate, that every class of people can enjoy them: they have for diversion bowls, billiards, chess, tennis, angling, and some other games.

In the winter, during the time of frost, sledges and skates yield great amusement, and are also of great use, as many industrious people, by that means, carry their goods to market; the sledge is drawn by a horse, or pushed along by a man in skates, while people of consequence have richly ornamented sledges; the person drives the horse himself, which is splendidly harnessed. The Dutch are remarkably clean, not only in their persons, but their ships, houses, and even their streets afford a striking proof of cleanliness; in short, the Dutch are characterised by industry, economy, and cleanliness.

The Dutch provinces were, at the last peace, incorporated with Lower Flanders, and raised into a kingdom, under their first sovereign prince, styled, the king of the Netherlands. They were formerly governed by a council, at the head of which was the Statdholder, or President.

GREEKS.



Greece was, in ancient times, the most celebrated nation in the world for wisdom, learning, arts, sciences, and every elegant accomplishment that could adorn human nature; and has, ever since, been the admiration of every enlightened people, who are proud to cultivate their language, philosophy, and literature.

To ancient Greece, the whole of Europe is indebted for a knowledge of poetry, sculpture, architecture, and almost every fine art that can embellish and improve the natural taste and ge-

nius of man. But ancient Greece is now no more, and the modern Greeks have been for ages under subjection to the ignorant barbarity of the Turks ; from whose tyranny they have, however, by the most arduous struggles, and the assistance of the European powers, at length emancipated themselves.

The modern Greeks are as fine and beautiful a people as any in the known world. The women have fine oval faces ; their eyes, eye-brows, and hair, are of deep shining black, their complexions are generally pale, and they are splendid in their dresses. The attire of the men is much the same as that of the Turks ; they live in houses of only one story, to which is attached a large garden ; and in their religion they profess the Christian faith.

The Ionian isles, a part of ancient Greece, are now under the subjection of England ; to whom they were ceded at the late treaty of peace signed at Ghent.

TURKS.



The Turks, in their persons, are a fine handsome race of people; they wear their beards long, which give them a venerable appearance, but they shave their heads close, and cover it with a white turban, except when they retire to sleep: none but Turks are suffered to wear the white Turban. They wear slippers, which they take off, when they enter their houses or a place of religious worship. In their demeanour, the Turks are grave and sedate, but when agitated

by passion, are raging, furious, and ungovernable.

They are ignorant, proud, and superstitious, having no feeling, no mercy, or charity, for a Jew or a Christian; but are kind to those who profess the same religion as themselves, which is Mahometanism; or a belief in the principles of faith disseminated by Mahomet the prophet.

In arts and sciences they make no progress, but spend almost the whole of their time in smoking their pipes, in silence, or in hearing stories related by persons who gain a living by telling similar Tales to those in the Arabian Nights' Entertainments.

They eat quantities of rice, and their usual drink is coffee. They also smoke and chew great quantities of opium, which has the effect of exhilarating their spirits at the same time that it deadens their faculties. The Turks do not undress and retire to rest at any certain time; but being seated on a sofa, or mattress, they smoke their pipes till they are sleepy, then laying themselves down, their servants cover them over for the night.

TARTARS.



The Tartars comprise a great variety of wandering tribes of people, natives of vast tracts of land, principally subject to Russia; they live in encampments, and remain in one place no longer than it will supply them with necessaries for themselves, and forage for their cattle, which consist of camels, horned beast, sheep, goats, and though last, not least in their estimation, their darling horses, to which they are particularly attached. Even to a female, the most acceptable present that can be made, is a handsome horse-

cloth, or any thing that can be converted to an ornament for her horse.

The diversions of the Tartars consist generally in horse-racing, dancing, singing, wrestling, drinking sour milk, and smoking their pipes, of which they are passionately fond; indeed, so immoderate is their love of tobacco, that they frequently swallow the smoke of it. Among the Tartars, old age meets with the greatest respect; and the highest compliment among them is to place those whom they wish to honour along with their most aged men.

Both men and women wear long gowns; the men's are generally of red cloth, bordered round with fur: they wear a girdle, to which the men suspend a sword. Both men and women wear wide drawers and slippers. The poor people have a winter pelisse of sheep-skin, and the rich wear a horse-skin, put on so as to have the mane to cover the back, and wave with the wind. The cap is made of cloth, in the form represented in the picture.

PERSIANS.



Persia is famous for its manufacture of silks, carpets, leather, and gold and silver lace;—the finest pearls are also brought from Persia.

The Persians are a fine race of men, and the women very beautiful. In their dress, the Persians frequently wear an encumbrance of garments, and prefer scarlet or crimson to any other colour. The men often shave the head, but never the face, the beard being considered as indispensable, and as the emblem of wisdom. The women dress very like the men, but their

dresses are much more ornamented with gold and jewels; they also wear ear-rings, and large rings of gold through the cartilage of the nose.

In eating, the Persians are very temperate, and admit but little variety in their food: they have, generally, a single cup of coffee, early in the morning, and they dine before noon, on sweetmeats, fruit, and dishes, made principally of milk; at supper, they eat animal food, and rice, with a liquor made with honey and spices; they exercise great hospitality to strangers.

As there are no wheel-carriages in Persia, people of ranks travel either on camels, horses, or mules; from childhood, the Persians are taught to ride well on horseback; they even play with bat and ball, whilst in full gallop: they are also instructed in the use of the sabre and lance. The Persians excel in hunting, and train up birds of prey, as well as dogs, with which they often attack lions, tigers, and leopards.

The Persians are generally worshippers of fire, and their priests are styled Magii: but Mahometanism is tolerated to a considerable extent among them.

CHINESE.



China is remarkable for the great antiquity of its government, which can be traced back several thousand years. The Chinese are the most numerous of any known nation in the world. In their persons, they are of a good stature, with round broad faces, little black eyes, and small sunk noses; they shave their heads, except only a small portion of hair on the top, which they wear plaited and very long. The people of high rank suffer their finger-nails to grow long. With respect to the dress of the Chinese, the laws of

that country have regulated every thing they wear, even to the colours; and the fashion never alters: the Emperor and royal family alone wear yellow; the mandarins, on grand days, wear satin of a red ground, but in general, either black, blue, or violet; the common people have only blue or black; and white is the colour for mourning.

With the Chinese women, small feet are thought very beautiful: and therefore, the feet of the females, when infants, are bound up so tight, with bandages, that they never grow to the natural size. The Chinese are very industrious and ingenious: from them we have our teas, and a great variety of ornaments. And there is one thing, which all will agree in wishing we could import from the Chinese, which is, the dutiful respect their children always pay to their parents.

One of the greatest curiosities of art is the Chinese wall, built to prevent the invasions of the Tartars. This wall is more than twenty-five feet high, and broad enough for six horsemen to ride abreast; it is about fifteen hundred miles in length.

EAST INDIANS.



Hindoostan, perhaps better known by the name of India, has been a country celebrated in all ages for its civilization, useful produce, manufactures, and wealth. It contains about one hundred millions of inhabitants; twenty-five millions of whom are subject to the English; and the countries under their power is equal in size to the half of Europe.

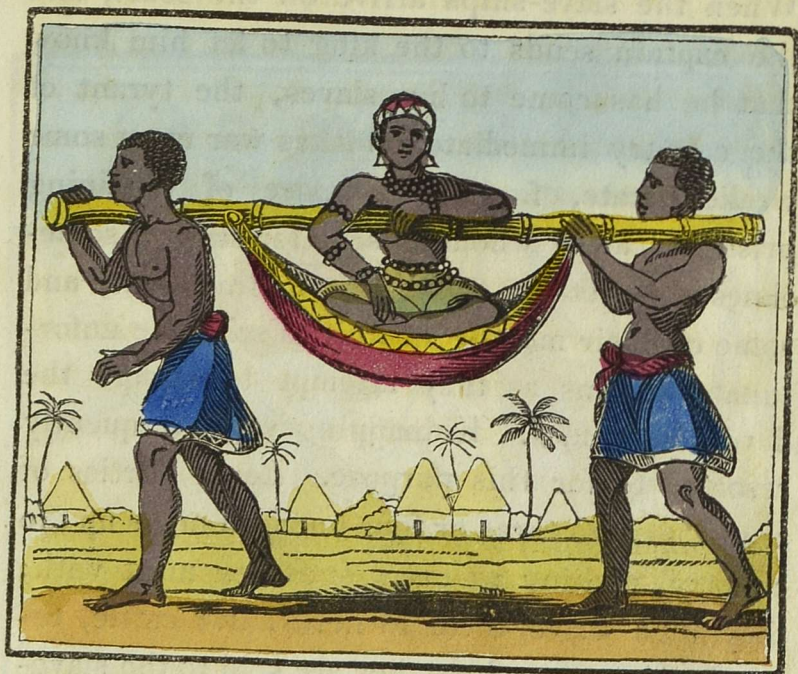
The manners of the Indians are very singular; in their food, they will not eat any thing that has ever lived; nor will they, knowingly, kill

even an insect. It is common to see them lightly sweeping the ground where they are going to tread, that they may not crush any living creature to death. Others wear a piece of thin gauze before their mouths, that they may not kill any thing by their breath; but if they should be so unfortunate, they impose a severe penance upon themselves, with many washings and purifications for the involuntary crime. Whenever they meet with a hunter or angler, they beg of him to desist; and if he will not attend to their entreaties, they offer him money; if he still refuses, they set up loud outcries to frighten away the birds, or disturb the water, that the fish may not be caught.

Mild and merciful as the Hindoos are, they have the dreadful custom of widows burning themselves alive, with the dead bodies of their husbands in their arms.

The Hindoos have, from great antiquity, been divided into four great tribes, which never alter.—The first are Brahmins, who are priests and nobles; the second are military men; the third are merchants, traders, or shopkeepers; the fourth are menial servants. When any one is excommunicated, or, as it is called, loses his caste, he and all his posterity are for ever shut out from society.

NEGROES.

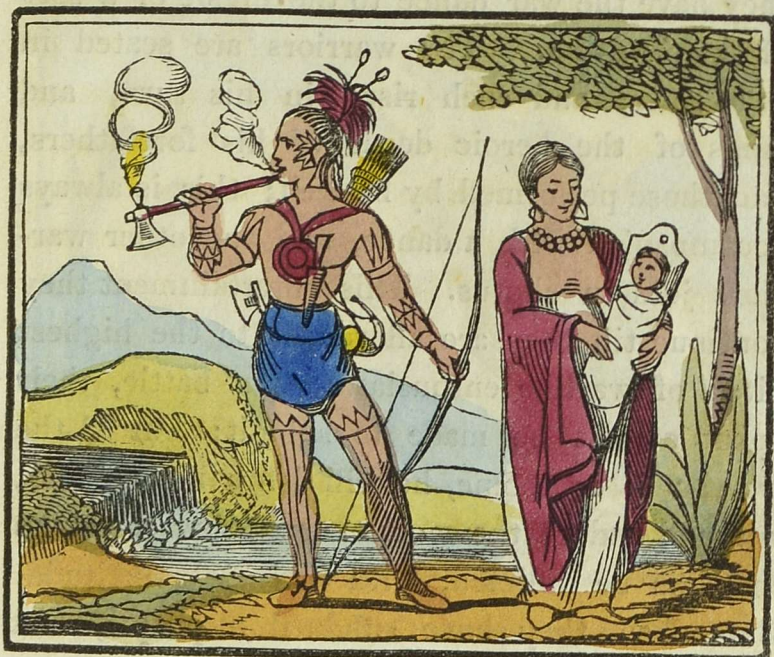


The Negroes of Africa are divided into several nations ; they are all black, and have short woolly hair ; but by giving some account of Congo, the most considerable nation of Negroes, every thing that is interesting will be described, belonging to them all.

They are, generally, a mild affable people. The principal diversions are singing, music, and dancing. The rich travel in a palanquin, carried on the shoulders of two stout slaves.

The government of this country is truly despotic, the king commanding not only the lives of his subjects, but also every thing they possess. When the slave-ships arrive on the coast, and the captain sends to the king to let him know that he has come to buy slaves, the tyrant of the country immediately makes war upon some weaker state, for the purpose of obtaining prisoners, all of whom he sells for slaves; sometimes they set fire to villages in the night, and some of their men lie in wait to seize the unfortunate victims as they attempt to escape the devouring flames. Kidnapping is also frequently resorted to for this purpose. Large parties of armed men go three or four hundred miles up the country, picking up every one they meet with; they then drive them in herds, like cattle, towards the coast, where they are sold to the slave-dealer. Much, it must be owned, has been done by Great Britain, to prevent this cruel practice; and, it is to be hoped, they will finally put an end to so disgraceful a trade. By a late act of Parliament, slave-trading is made piracy, and America has also passed a similar law.

AMERICAN INDIANS.



Of all the native tribes of America, the most interesting are the Five Indian Nations, as they are termed. These tribes think themselves superior to the rest of mankind, and this notion inspires them with that invincible courage which has been so dreadful to all the nations with whom they have been at war.

In all national concerns, the Five Nations, or Tribes, have a meeting of their chiefs; and very

seldom make war from any other motive but revenge and glory. On the night before they set out, they make a grand feast, at which all the great warriors are present; at this entertainment they have the war dance to the music of a sort of kettle-drum. The warriors are seated in two rows, and each rises in his turn, and sings of the heroic deeds of his forefathers, and those performed by himself; this is always accompanied with a dance, and the other warriors join in chorus. This entertainment they continue till they are all roused to the highest pitch of warlike enthusiasm. In battle, their spirit cannot be made to submit; but if the warrior is overcome, he still defies his enemies, and will endure the most excruciating torments that can be inflicted, with invincible fortitude: But when they have subdued a people, and satiated their revenge, they adopt the rest of the captives as their friends, and will rather starve themselves, than suffer them to want.

These Indians are of a middle-size, and copper-coloured; with black eyes, and long black hair: they are of a cheerful disposition, and scrupulously honest in their dealings. They reside in tents, of a circular form, covered with skins. They subsist by hunting and fishing, at which they are remarkably expert.

OTAHEITEANS.



The inhabitants of Otaheite are a fine, stout, active people; in their dispositions they are mild, good-natured, and friendly. Their complexion is of a pale brown; their hair and eyes, black, with small noses, and rather large mouths, and beautiful white teeth. The men of consequence wear their finger-nails long, which is thought a very grand mark of distinction, but the nail of the middle finger on the right hand is always kept short. The men generally wear their beards.

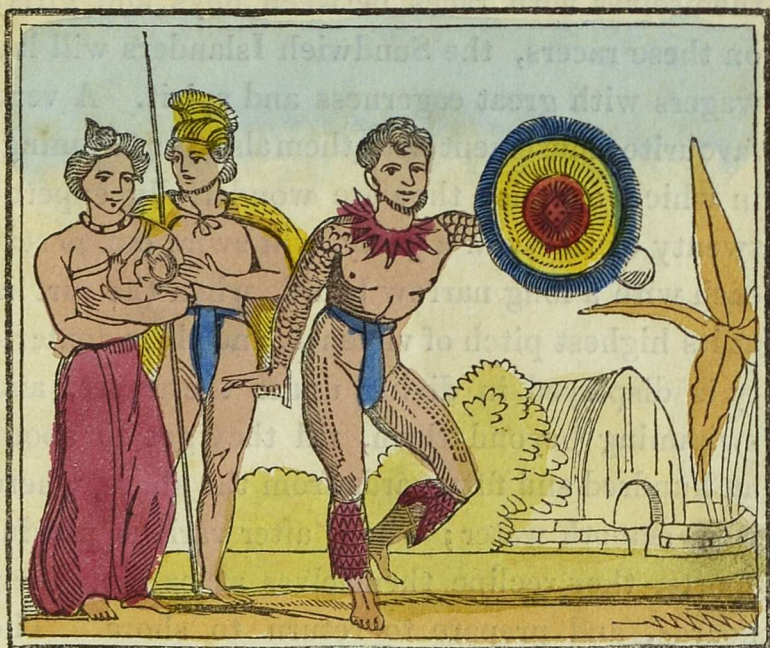
The favourite amusements in Otaheite are music, singing, and dancing; but the men and women always dance separately, sometimes in companies, and sometimes singly; their motions are very graceful, and their attitudes extremely elegant.

The houses of the Otaheiteans are only a sort of shed, built in the woods, between the sea and the mountains; they are erected in an oblong form, about twice as long as they are wide; in these sheds, the whole family repose at night: they make no use of them but to sleep in, except when it rains, and then they eat their meals under cover; but it is to be observed, that the men and women never eat together, as it would be thought a great disgrace for men and women to sit down together to a meal. The men of rank are constantly fed by women.

Otaheite was discovered by Captain Cook, in his first voyage of discovery round the world; it is part of a cluster of large islands, which he denominated the Society, or Friendly Islès. They are situated in the South seas.

The female figure represented in the engraving is that of a dancing-girl, arrayed in the costume in which they appear at feasts, weddings, and other parties of amusement.

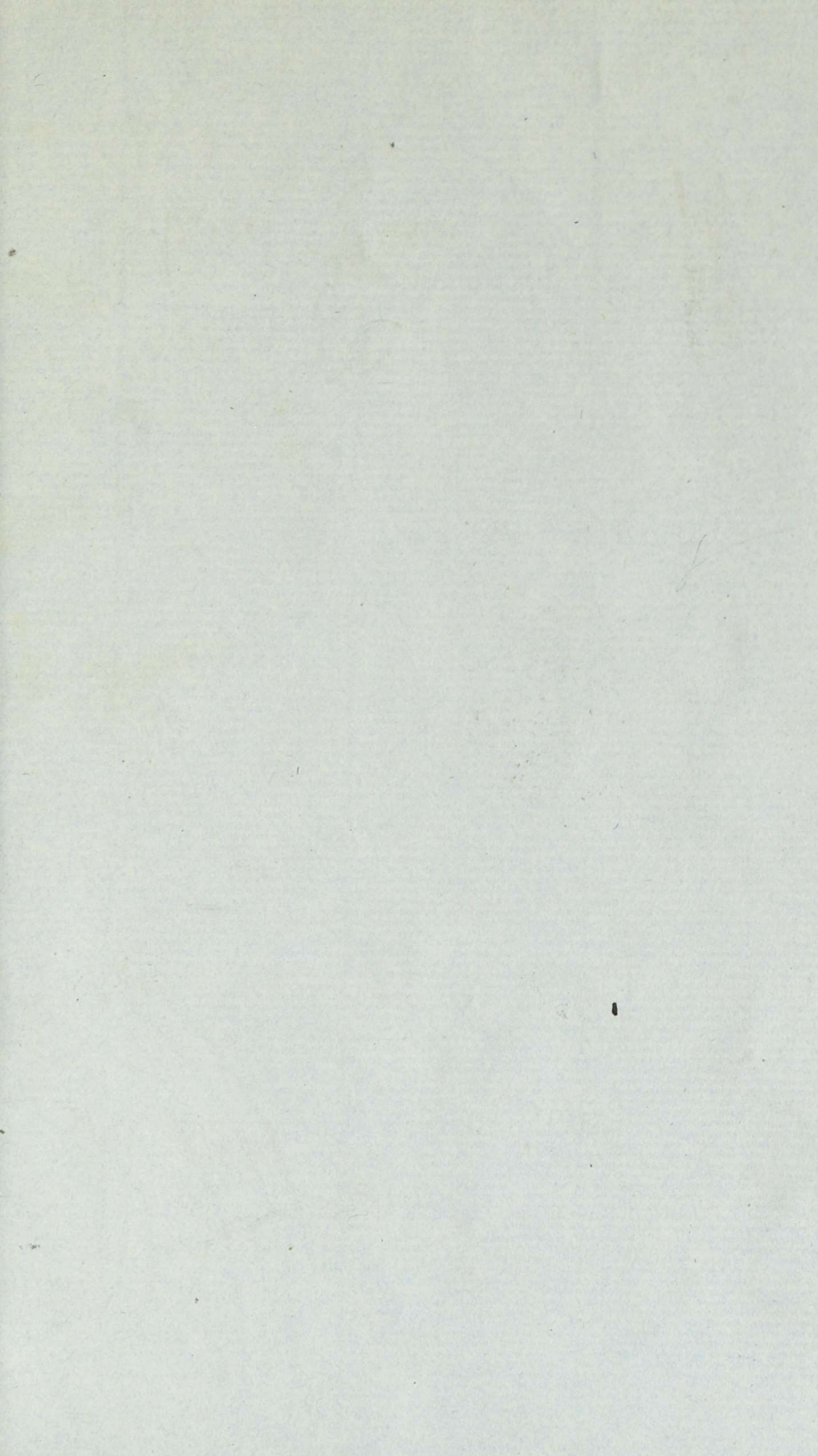
SANDWICH ISLANDERS.



The natives of the Sandwich Islands, the king and queen of which died in London in 1824, are a people very friendly and affectionate, living in great harmony and friendship with each other. The earees, or nobles, are occupied in making canoes and mats; while the tawtows, or servants, are at work in the plantations, or employed in fishing; and the women, no less industrious, are engaged in the manufacture of cloth. When the time of work is over, they divert themselves with

various amusements, and are very fond of dancing; the young men are also fond of wrestling matches. These people frequently entertain themselves with races between boys and girls; on these racers, the Sandwich Islanders will lay wagers with great eagerness and spirit. A very favourite amusement with them also, is swimming, in which exercise they are wonderfully expert: twenty or thirty in a party, will swim out to sea, each with a long narrow board, when the surf is at its highest pitch of violence, and their dexterity is displayed in diving under the waves, and swimming beyond them, till they get to about an hundred and fifty yards from the shore, where it is smooth water; when, after various playful sports, they recline themselves at ease on their boards, and prepare to return to shore. The courage and skill with which they perform these sports, is almost incredible.

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