

well as for the art of carving in wood and stone; and their aptitude for imitation is very great. With only a bad knife, they make well-finished toys, and carve images out of the hardest wood.

Notwithstanding the long residence of the Roman Catholics in this country, who have endeavored by treachery, violence, and cruelty, to make converts, the natives still retain many of their ancient practices. When a person dies, the corpse is dressed in a habit suitable to his rank, wealth, or circumstances. With the habit, they give the defunct a jug of water, and different pieces of paper, with directions for the use of each. With the first they say: "By means of this, you will pass, without danger, between the two mountains which fight against each other." With the second, he is told, that he will "walk without obstruction, along the road, which is defended by the great serpent; and so of the rest." A domestic quadruped, resembling a little dog, is killed, to accompany the deceased in his journey to the invisible world.

SOUTH AMERICA.

BRAZIL.

This province, till lately, belonged to the king of Portugal, and partook of the same absolute species of government. It is now, however, independent. The religion is Roman Catholicism. Education has been much neglected; and literature, with the arts and sciences, can scarcely be said to exist here.

The European settlers are in general gay, and fond of pleasure; yet extremely observant of the ceremonies appropriated to the Virgin Mary, whose effigies are stuck up in a glass case at every corner. Convents and monasteries are numerous; manufactories rare.

The country people, who are not engaged in mining, live in small mud cottages, covered with tiles, or with the leaves of *carnauba*. Hammocks usually supply the place of beds, and not unfrequently are substitutes for chairs. The best cottages are furnished with a table; but it is more usual for the family, at meal time, to squat upon a mat in a circle on the floor, with the dishes, bowls, or gourds, in the centre. Knives and forks are not much known, and not at all

used by the lower orders. Before a meal, a basin of water and a towel are handed round, that every one may wash his hands before he eats; and the same ceremony is repeated at the conclusion. The employment of females consists of spinning and needlework; the men milk the cows and goats. No females of free birth are ever seen employed in any kind of labour in the open air, excepting that of occasionally fetching wood or water, if the men happen to be absent.

In the mining districts, where riches are supposed to abound, the most abject poverty prevails. The property of the inhabitants consists simply of slaves, and the few rude instruments necessary for working the mines. The dwellings are wretched hovels, composed of wicker-work and mud, with only a hole for a window, if the door be not deemed sufficient for the admission of light; and the walls are full of cracks, that are seldom stopped. The beds consist of coarse cotton cases filled with dried grass, or the leaves of maize; and of these seldom more than two are found in one house, the rest of the family sleeping on hides, or mats, spread upon the earthen floor. The food of these people is coarse; and water their only beverage. Their dress corresponds with their mode of living; and the general poverty and meanness of the female clothing, render the women reluctant to appear before any but the members of their own family; hence they are rarely seen abroad.

The native Indians are of various tribes, and speak dif-

ferent languages; but all agree in wearing no clothes. They are of a copper colour, with long coarse black hair, but, like other Americans, destitute of beards. Strong, lively, and gay, they are subject to few diseases. They adorn themselves with feathers, and are fond of feasts, at which they dance immoderately. They believe in the existence of a good and an evil principle; but have neither temples, idols, nor any external religious forms. Their huts are made of the branches of trees, and the roofs, of palm-leaves. When they travel, they suspend their hammocks between two trees. The flesh of monkeys forms a considerable part of their animal food; and they generally have several of them ready roasted and blackened with smoke, ranged against the walls of their huts.

PERU.

WHEN the Spaniards first broke into this country, they found a race of people far advanced in the arts of life, surrounded by riches, and voluptuous in their manners. Gold was so common among them that it was put to the most ordinary uses, as iron or brass are in other countries. They worshipped the sun; and their Incas were at once their high priests and their sovereigns. Their superiority, however, has long since vanished; and it is impossible to recognize in the present race of Peruvians, any decided marks of the

advancement of their forefathers beyond the verge of savage life. They are commonly of low stature; and though strong and well-proportioned, some are remarkably short. Their deep black hair, which is thick and long, harsh and coarse as that of a horse, is worn loose by the men; but the females plait theirs behind with a riband, and cut it short in front just above the eyebrows. The greatest insult that can be offered to either sex is to cut off the hair; and when this is done by way of punishment, they never forgive the disgrace put upon them. Their dress consists of white cotton drawers, reaching to the calf of the leg, loose, and edged with lace. Instead of a shirt, they wear a black cotton frock, in the form of a sack, with two openings for the arms, and a third for the head to pass through. Over this, they throw a serge cloak, and cover the head with a hat. This dress is never put off, even when they sleep. Though they wear no stockings, they have silver or gold buckles in their shoes; and their cloak, which is of fine cloth, is often adorned with gold or silver lace.

The *Creoles*, or natives of Spanish descent, are well made, and of good stature, with lively agreeable countenances. The *Mestizoes*, or mixed race, are likewise generally well made, very robust, and often taller than the ordinary size. The men cut off their hair, to distinguish themselves from the Indians; but the females do not. They wear a blue

cloth, manufactured in the country; and the women affect to dress after the Spanish fashion.

Peru abounds more in women than men; and the females enjoy a better state of health, owing to the early intemperance of the men. Rum and brandy are drunk by persons of all ranks; but the excessive use of spiritous liquors chiefly prevails among the *Mestizoes*. Gaming is carried to an extravagant height. The common people and the Indians are much addicted to pilfering; but daring or extensive robberies are rarely heard of.

CHILI.

THE native Chilese are a bold intrepid people; and may rather be said to have suffered the Spaniards to settle among them, than to have been conquered by them. Still nearly one half of Chili, with some of the country southward of it, is possessed by tribes of the aborigines, under the name of *Araucanians*, so called from the small province of Arauco. Though not above the middle size, they are strong and robust, and have a truly martial appearance. Their copper colour is of a lighter tint than in most of the northern and central tribes. Their hair is long and black, which they bind up on the top of the head; but carefully extirpate their beards; for they despise the beards of Europeans, as marks of barbarism. The women are often handsome, endued with a strong constitution, and many outlive

a hundred years, with their teeth, sight, and memory unimpaired.

The minds of these people correspond with the vigour of their bodies. They are intrepid warriors, enthusiastic lovers of liberty, patient of the fatigues and privations of war, and prodigal of their lives in defence of their country. Yet are they courteous, hospitable, faithful to their engagements, grateful for benefits, and generous and humane towards the vanquished. These bright qualities are, however, tarnished with pride, presumption, drunkenness, and sloth!

The Araucanians prefer a short compact dress, as best adapted to their warlike character. A woollen shirt, or doublet, with tight breeches, and a mantle reaching to the knee, is their ordinary costume; and, from its convenient form, has been adopted by the Spaniards in this quarter.

Though the Araucanians do not change their residences, like the migratory tribes, still they have an aversion to live in communities. Cities they look upon as prisons, and they place their houses at a distance from each other, on the banks of rivers. These habitations descend from father to son; and are only removed in cases of extreme necessity. They are commonly surrounded with trees, under the shade of which the family take their meals. Cleanliness is a characteristic of the nation; both sexes bathe daily in the river, and are expert swimmers. The education of the Araucanians is limited to horsemanship, the use of arms,

and the practice of eloquence; for which last their language is well adapted.

The food of these people consists chiefly of grain and herbs; maize and potatoes are most esteemed. They prepare several kinds of beer and cider from maize, apples, and other fruits; and they are fond of wine.

The Spanish population of Chili is derived mostly from the northern province, and mingled with a few English, French, and Italians. The Creoles are well made, honourable, intrepid, and liberal; yet vain, and fond of pleasure. The men generally dress in the French fashion; the women in that of Peru; but the Chilese ladies wear long gowns, and have a more modest air.

PATAGONIANS.

THESE people occupy the southern extremity of America, and are remarkable for being the most gigantic race on the earth; six feet and a half being their average height, with a bulk in full proportion; only their hands and feet are small. They are a warlike tribe; yet courteous and humane. Their complexion is the usual copper colour of American Indians. Their hair is straight, black and coarse, and tied back with a string: neither sex wear any covering on the head. They are generally clad in skins of the guanaco sewed together into pieces about six feet long, and five broad, which are wrapped as a cloak round the body, with the hairy side

inwards, and fastened with a girdle about the waist. Several of these people, who have been seen by our navigators, have painted patches on their faces; and each carries a missile weapon, consisting of two round stones, each about a pound weight, covered with leather, and fastened to the ends of a string eight feet long. When this is used, one stone is held in the hand, and the other whirled round the head till it has acquired sufficient velocity, and then it is discharged at the object. So expert are they in the use of this weapon, that they will hit a small mark at a considerable distance, with both stones.

TERRA DEL FUEGO.

THE name given to this island by the Portuguese navigators, who discovered it, signifies *Land of Fire*: it is, however, a dreary region, bleak, barren, and mountainous, where winter holds an almost uninterrupted sway. The name was occasioned by the vast number of fires, added to the flames of some volcanoes, which were visible on its first appearance. The natives are of the middle stature, with broad faces, flat noses, and high cheek bones. They paint their bodies, which are naturally fair, and clothe themselves in seals' skins. Shell-fish constitute their principal food. Their miserable huts are of a conical form. The natives on the south side are said to be treacherous and sanguinary; but those on the north are represented as simple and harmless.

EUROPE.

THE DANES.

THOUGH these people live under a monarchical government, wisdom and moderation have so long characterised the measures of the court, that the Danes boast justly of the superiority of their laws. The established religion is Lutheranism; but full toleration is allowed to persons of other persuasions. Education is an object of primary importance; and Denmark has produced some celebrated philosophers, mathematicians, astronomers, painters, physicians, and philologers.

The ancient Danes rendered themselves remarkable for their ferocity and piracies. Their national character has, however, in this respect, greatly changed; they are a brave and humane people; and, though not now very enterprising, they make excellent soldiers and sailors; and fill up the various relations of life with respectability.

The Danes are generally tall and robust, with regular features, florid complexions, and hair inclining to yellow, or red. The superior classes are fond of magnificence and show, and value themselves much upon those titles and