

which it was inhabited? This we will not positively affirm; for the Caribbees themselves give the name of Caribana to a country which they occupied, and which extended from the Rio Sinu to the gulf of Darien. This is a striking example of identity of name between an American nation and the territory it possessed. We may conceive, that in a state of society, where residence is not long fixed, such instances must be very rare.

II. The *Guaraons* or *Gu-ara-una*, almost all free and independent, are dispersed in the Delta of the Orinoco, with the variously ramified channels of which they alone are well acquainted. The Caribbees call the Guaraons *U-ara-u*. They owe their independence to the nature of their country; for the missionaries, in spite of their zeal, have not been tempted to follow them to the tree-tops. The Guaraons, in order to raise their abodes above the surface of the waters at the period of the great inundations, support them on the hewn trunks of the mangrove-tree and of the *Mauritia* palm-tree.* They make bread of the medullary flour of this palm-tree, which is the sago of America. The flour bears the name of *yuruma*: I have eaten it at the town of St. Thomas, in Guiana, and it was very agreeable to the taste, resembling rather the cassava-bread

great river, of a shore, and of a rainy country, I think I recognise the radical *par*, signifying water, not only in the languages of these countries, but also in those of nations very distant from one another on the eastern and western coasts of America. The sea, or great water, is in the Caribbean, Maypure, and Brazilian languages, *parana*: in the Tamanac, *parava*. In Upper Guiana also the Orinoco is called *Parava*. In the Peruvian, or Quichua, I find 'rain,' *para*; 'to rain,' *parani*. Besides, there is a lake in Peru that has been very anciently called Paria. (Garcia, *Origen de los Indios*, p. 292.) I have entered into these minute details concerning the word Paria, because it has recently been supposed that some connection might be traced between this word and the country of the Hindoo caste called the Parias.

* Their manners have been the same from time immemorial. Cardinal Bembo described them at the beginning of the 16th century, "quibusdam in locis propter paludes incolæ domus in arboribus ædificant." (*Hist. Venet.*, 1551.) Sir Walter Raleigh, in 1595, speaks of the Guaraons under the names of *Araottes*, *Trivitivas*, and *Warawites*. These were perhaps the names of some tribes, into which the great Guaraonese nation was divided. (Barrère, *Essai sur l'Hist. Naturelle de la France Equinoctiale.*)