

Father Gil, designate even now, at the distance of one hundred and sixty leagues from the Amazon, the *Acacia niopo* by the name of *curupa*. Since the geographical researches which I have recently made on the scene of the exploits of Philip von Hutten, and the real situation of the province of Papanene, or of the Omaguas, the probability of an ancient communication between the Ottomacs of the Orinoco and the Omaguas of the Marañon has become more interesting and more probable. The former came from the Meta, perhaps from the country between the Meta and the Guaviare; the latter assert, that they descended in great numbers to the Marañon by the Rio Jupura, coming from the eastern declivity of the Andes of New Grenada. Now, it is precisely between the Guayavero, (which joins the Guaviare,) and the Caqueta, (which takes lower down the name of Japura,) that the country of the Omagua appears to be situate, of which the adventurers of Coro and Tocuyo in vain attempted the conquest. There is no doubt a striking contrast between the present barbarism of the Ottomacs and the ancient civilization of the Omaguas; but all parts of the latter nation were not perhaps alike advanced in civilization, and the example of tribes fallen into complete barbarism are unhappily but too common in the history of our species. Another point of resemblance may be remarked between the Ottomacs and the Omaguas. Both of these nations are celebrated among all the tribes of the Orinoco and the Amazon for their employment of caoutchouc in the manufacture of various articles of utility.

The real herbaceous tobacco\* (for the missionaries have

\* The word tobacco (*tabacco*), like the words savannah, maize, cacique, maguey (agave), and manati, belongs to the ancient language of Hayti, or St. Domingo. It did not properly denote the herb, but the tube through which the smoke was inhaled. It seems surprising, that a vegetable production so universally spread should have different names among neighbouring people. The *pete-ma* of the Omaguas is; no doubt, the *pety* of the Guaranos; but the analogy between the Cabre and Algonkin (or Lenni-Lenape) words, which denote tobacco, may be merely accidental. The following are the synonymes in thirteen languages.

North America. Aztec or Mexican; *yell*: Algonkin; *sema*: Huron; *oyngoua*.

South America. Peruvian or Quichua; *sayri*: Chiquito; *pâis*. Guarany; *pety*: Vilela; *tusup*: Mbaja, (west of the Paraguay) *nalo-dagadi*: Moxo (between the Rio Ucayale and the Rio Madeira) *sabare*. Omagua; *petema*; Tamanac; *cavai*. Maypure; *jema*. Cabre; *scemu*.