

a state as that of some other nations. The wide and populous region of Hindostan and Japan, Farther India, and especially of Australasia and Polynesia, as well as the almost entire continent of Africa, exhibits an utter and almost unalleviated waste of mind. Of all the animals inhabiting those regions, man is doubtless the farthest below what his Creator intended him to be ; and, I had almost said, probably he is the lowest on the scale of intellect. There is no part of the world which the civilized man cannot penetrate, in spite of the fiercest and strongest wild beasts. But there are many regions which he has never been able to explore, because the untamed savage is more dangerous than beasts of prey. This fact is a fine comment upon those Utopian theories which represent the savage state as more desirable than the civilized. Those same beings whose cultivation might make not only the region which they inhabit a paradise, but shed blessings on other lands, are now the most degraded and disgusting objects which the earth contains, and the terror of civilized man, and even of one another. Yet this is the condition of almost the whole of the two wide continents of Africa and Australasia, and of vast regions in Asia. What a terrific waste of mind the picture exhibits !

In all the regions we have now examined beyond the limits of Christianity, there is one feature which I ought not to pass unnoticed on this occasion. In all Christian countries, we find woman brought into free companionship, if not equality, with man. Unrestrained by any thing but propriety and religion, she goes abroad to enjoy the beauties of nature, and to mingle freely in society, of which, indeed, she constitutes the chief life and ornament. But as soon as we enter the dominions of the false prophet, she is shut out from all society save that of her own sex and of her tyrannical husband, or rather