

“ lowing terms: ‘ We observed a vapour-bath,  
 “ consisting of a hollow square of six or eight  
 “ feet deep, formed in the river bank by dam-  
 “ ming up with mud the other three sides, and  
 “ covering the whole completely, except an aper-  
 “ ture about two feet wide at the top. The  
 “ bathers descend by this hole, taking with  
 “ them a number of heated stones, and jugs  
 “ of water; and, after being seated round the  
 “ room, throw the water on the stones till the  
 “ steam becomes of a temperature sufficiently  
 “ high for their purposes<sup>i</sup>.’ ”

It appears then, from the foregoing statement, that the peasants of Russia, and the savages of North America, are in the habit of employing the same means for converting water into vapour, which were employed by the Romans at the most luxurious period in their history: and to the peasants of Russia and the savages of North America, may be added the natives of New Zealand and other islands of the Pacific ocean; merely with this qualification, that they employ the steam, so raised, not for the purpose of a vapour-bath, but of dressing their food.

It is worthy of notice, as illustrative of the social feeling inherent in human nature, that, equally among the uncivilized natives of America as among the luxurious inhabitants of an-

<sup>i</sup> Sauer, in his account of Billings's expedition, describes the same kind of bath as used in north-western America (p. 175).