

on any ground we may attribute the principle of instinct to man, it seems justifiable on that which we are now considering. Omitting, however, those more remarkable instances of instinct which direct the bee, the ant, the spider, the swallow, or the beaver, in the fabrication of the structures which they put together with such nice art; if we merely consider the simple burrow of the rabbit or the mole, we seem to acquire a strong presumption that man would not be destitute of a similar instinct: and it may reasonably be supposed that, by whatever intellectual power or internal sensation the savage is directed so to adjust the various joints and muscles of his limbs as to balance his body when in danger of falling, by a similar power he is enabled so to adjust the rude boughs of which his hut is composed, that by mutually supporting one another they may at the same time serve for a support to the grass, or moss, which is thrown over them for the purpose of forming a shelter^u. Numerous traces of such

^u 'The following statement, from Lewis and Clarke's Travels, will shew how much may be effected by human ingenuity and industry though aided by the slightest means: "The Columbian Indians possess very few axes; and the only tool employed in their building, from the felling of the tree to the delicate workmanship of the images, (adorning their canoes,) is a chisel made of an old file: and this is worked without the aid of a mallet. But with this they finish a canoe fifty feet long, and capable of holding between twenty and thirty persons, in a few weeks." p. 435. To the preceding state-