

they wear stockings and shoes, made and ornamented as those of the men.

They differ from each other in the mode of dressing their heads, and each follow the custom of the nation or band to which they belong, and adhering to the form made use of by their ancestors from time immemorial.

I remarked that most of the females who dwell on the east side of the Mississippi, decorate their heads by encircling their hair either in ribbands, or in plates of silver; the latter is only made use of by the higher ranks, as it is a costly ornament. The silver they make use of on this occasion is formed into thin plates, of about four inches broad, in several of which they confine their hair. The plate which is nearest the head is of a considerable width; the next to that is narrower, and made so as to pass a little way under the other; and in this manner they fasten into each other, and gradually tapering, descend to the waist. The hair of Indian women being in general very long, this proves an expensive method.

But the women that live to the west of the Mississippi, viz. the Naudowessies, the Assinipoils, and others, divide the hair in the middle of the head, and form it into two rolls, one against each ear. These rolls are about three inches long, and as large as their wrists. They hang in a perpendicular attitude at the front of each ear, and descend as far as the lower part of it.

The women of every nation generally place a spot of paint, about the size of a crown piece, against each ear; some of them put paint on their hair, and sometimes a small spot in the middle of their forehead.

The Indians, in general pay a greater attention to their dress, and to the ornaments with which they decorate their persons, than to the accommodations of their huts or tents. They construct the latter in the following simple and expeditious manner.

Being provided with poles of a proper length, they fasten two of them across, with bands made of bark. Having done this, they raise them up, and extend the bottom of each as wide as they purpose to make the area of the tent; they then erect others of an equal height, and fix them so as to support the two principal ones. On the whole they lay skins of the elk or deer, sewed together, in quantity sufficient to cover the poles, and by lapping them over to form the door.

As the habitations of the Indians are thus made, their domestic utensils are few in number, and plain in their formation.

The tools wherewith they fashion them are so awkward and defective, that it is not only impossible to form them with any degree of neatness or elegance, but the time required in the execution is so considerable, as to deter them from engaging in the manufacture of such as are not absolutely necessary.

From the AMERICAN MUSEUM.

Geographical description of Bachelor's Island.

When Hymen's torch glows in the marry'd breast,
All wand'ring passions are at rest,
In constant love we ev'ry pleasure find,
And ev'ry solace in the female mind.

BACHELOR'S ISLAND is situated on the burning sands of the desert of folly, where even the savage inhabitants of the forest seldom venture to tread. It is bounded on the east by the regions of affectation, vanity and deceit; on the north, by the territories of fear and cowardice; on the south, by remorse, disease, and death; and on the west, by the dead lake of oblivion. Hence it is easily to be supposed, that the air of this island is sultry, enervating and pestiferous; exposed to perpetual scenes of storm, hurricane and tempest; and its climate, like the minds of its inhabitants, is never settled for an hour. The spring of Bachelor's Island totally differs from that of any other I have hitherto read of. As that is here the season of the most pernicious heat, and in which the generality of its inhabitants are possessed with a kind of madness, the most destructive to themselves, the most injurious to every civilized country, and the most subversive of unguarded innocence. Those who weather out the spring, and live to see the summer, though they lose a great degree of their madness, yet in that season they become artful, hypocritical and treacherous. Their winter is truly despicable, indeed; since, among all nations upon earth you cannot express your contempt of a man more pointedly, than by calling him an old bachelor—a thing that lives only for itself; a thing that has no social harmony in its soul; a thing that cares for nobody, and whom nobody regards; a thing that, like a mushroom, delights in bogs and morasses, but hates the generous warmth of the noon day sun. Though the natives of this miserable island make those of the Isle of Matrimony the constant object of their ridicule, yet there have been numberless instances of their stealing from their own island into that of Matrimony, where they have

prevailed on some good natured easy creatures to become their nurses and restorers, after their constitutions have been nearly ruined in their former miserable abodes; for, in the Isle of Matrimony, though clouds now and then gather over it, yet they serve only to render the remainder of the day more brilliant and cheerful. In Bachelor's Island, love is a thing much talked of, but totally unknown to them; and they are hated and despised, robbed and plundered by the objects of their miserable embraces. If cards be the usual diversion of the people on the Isle of Matrimony, they are considered only as an amusement; but on Bachelor's Island, they are productive of the most shocking vices, such as the grossest scenes of drunkenness and debauchery, the total ruin of their private fortunes—and even murder itself sometimes is the consequence. How many have quitted this island, and fled to that so much despised, in order to repair their ruined fortunes, by seeking a rich and amiable partner! Bachelor's Isle is a mere desert, incapable of producing any thing but nettles, thorns and briars. Here are no bleating lambs to please the eye of innocence; here are no doves to cherish their young; nor does the youthful fawn bound over their barren plains; but wolves, tygers, and crocodiles, are here seen in abundance. Here are neither wife nor children to weep over the ashes of the deceased; but owls hoot, ravens croak, and the reptiles of the earth crawl over their graves. In short, of all animals that nature ever produced, an old bachelor must be the most contemptible. He lives a useless being on earth; dies without having answered the end of his great maker; and is at last consigned forever to oblivion.

CONGRESS of the UNITED STATES

AT THE THIRD SESSION.

Begun and held at the city of Philadelphia, on Monday, the sixth of December, one thousand seven hundred and ninety.

An ACT, supplementary to the act, entitled, 'an act making further provision for the debts of the United States.

WHEREAS no express provision has been made for extending the act, entitled, "an act to provide