INTRODUCTION. NEAR the west Bank of the Coneaught River there are the remains of an ancient fort. As I was walking and forming various conjectures respecting the character situation and numbers of those people who far exceeded the present Indians in works of art and ingenuity, I happened to tread on a flat stone. This was at a small distance from the fort, <fe it lay on the top of a great small mound of Earth exactly horizontal. The face of it had a singular appearance. I discovered a number of characters, which appeared to me to be letters, but so much effaced by the ravages of time, that I could not read the inscription. With the assistance of a leaver I raised the stone. But you may easily conjecture my astonishment when I discovered that its ends and sides rested on stones and that it was designed as a cover to an artificial Cave. I found by examining that its sides were lined with stones built in a conical form with down, and that it was about eight feet deep. Determined to investigate the design of this extraordinary work of antiquity, I prepared myself with the necessary requisites for that purpose and descended to the Bottom of the Cave. Observing one side to be perpendicular nearly three feet from the bottom, I began to inspect that part with accuracy. Here I noticed a big flat stone fixed in the form of a doer. I immediately tore it down and Lo, a cavity within the wall presented itself it being about three feet in diameter from side to side and about two feet high. Within this cavity I found an earthen Box with a cover which shut it perfectly Tite. The Box was two feet in length one and half in breadth and one and three inches in diameter. My mind filled with awful sensations which crowded fast upon me would hardly permit my hands to remove this venerable deposit, but curiosity soon gained the ascendancy and the box was taken and raised to open it. When I had removed the Cover I found that it contained twenty-eight rolls of parchment-&- that when - - - appeared to be manuscripts written in elegant hand with Roman Letters and in the Latin Lan gauge. They were written on a variety of Subjects. But the Roll which principally attracted my attention contained a history of the author's life and that part of America which extends along the great Lakes and the waters of the Mississippi. Extracts of the most interesting and important matters contained in this Roll I take the liberty to publish. Gentle Reader, tread lightly on the ashes of the venerable dead. Thou must know that this Country was once inhabited by great and powerful nations considerably civilized and skilled in the arts of war, <t that on ground where thou now treadeat many a bloody Battle hath been fought, and heroes by thou sands have been made to bite the dust. In the history given of these nations by my author you will find nothing1 but what will respond with the natural sentiments we should form on viewing the innumerable remains of antiquity which are scattered OYer an extensive Country. This is an evidence of the author's impartiality and veracity. But if any should pretend that the whole story is fictitious or fabulous To publish a translation of every particular circumstance mentioned by our author would produce a volume too expensive for the general class of readers, But should this attempt to throw off the veil which has secluded our view from the transactions o nations who for ages have been extinct, meet the approbation of the public, I shall then be happy to gratify the more inquisitive and learned part of my readers by a more minute publication. Apprehensive that skeptical illiberal or superstitious minds may censure this performance with great acrimony I have only to remark that they will be deprived of. a great fund of entertainment - - - of a contrary disposition will obtain. My compassion will be excited more than my resentment and there the contest will end. Now, Gentle Reader, the Translator who wishes well to thy present and thy future existence entreats thee to peruse this volume with a clear head a pure heart and a candid mind. If thou shalt then find that thy head and thy heart are both improved it will afford him more satisfaction than the approbation of ten thousand who have received no benefit. And now permit me to admonish thee that if thou shouldst reside in or travel thro\* any part of the Chart. I.AN EPITOME OF THE AUTHOR'S LIFE and OF HISARIVAL IN AMERICA.As IT is possible that in some future age this part of the Earth will be inhabited by Europeans and a history of its present inhabitants would be a valuable acquisition I proceed to write one and deposit it in a box secured - - - so that the ravages of time will have no effect upon it that you may know the author will give a succinct account of his life and of the cause of his arival which I have extracted from manuscript which will be deposited with this history. My name was is Fabius The family name I sustain Fabius, being decended from the illustrious general of that name. I was born at Rome and received my education under the tuition of a very Learned Master. At the time that Constantine arrived at thatcity and had overcome his enemies and and was firmly The "MANUSCRIPT STORY.'9 15seated on the throne of the Roman empire I was introduced to him as a young Gentleman of genius and learning and as being worthy of the favorable notice of his imperial majesty. He gave me the appointment of one of his secretaries, and such werethe gracious intimations which he frequently gave me of his high approbation of my conduct that I was happy in my station. One day he says to me Fabius you must go to Britain and carry an important - - - to the general of our army there - - - sail in a vessel and return when she returns. Preparation was made instantly and we sailed - - - The vessel laden with provisions for the army - - - Cloth -knives and other implements for their use had now arrived near the coast of Britain a tremendous storm arose and drove us into the midst of the boundless Ocean. Soon the whole crew became lost and bewildered. They knew not the direction for to the rising Sun or polar Star, for the heavens were covered with clouds; and darkness had spreader sable mantle over the face of the raging deep. Their minds were filled with consternation and despair. and unanimously agreed that What could we do? How be extracted from the insatiable jaws of water tomb. Then it was that we felt our absolute dependence on that Almighty and gracious Being who holds the winds and floods in - - hands. From him alone could we expect deliverance. To him our most fervent desires assended. Prostrate <fc on bended knees we poured forth incessant Supplication and even Old Ocean appeared to sympathize in our distress by returning the echo of our vociferous Cries and lamenta-16 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."Tons. After being driven five days with incredible velocity before the furious wind the storm abated in its violance. but still the strong wind blew strong in the strong as I now believe in the same direction. Doubtful whether the wind had not changed her point give the ship full sail and let her drive. On the sixth day after, the storm wholly subsided, the sunrose clear and the heavens once more appeared to smile. Inexpressible was the consternation of all the crew, they found themselves in the midst of a vast Ocean. No prospect of returning. All was lost. The wind blowing westwardly, and the presumption was that it had been blowing in that direction during the whole of the storm. No pen can paint the delirious cries and lamentations of the poor mariners^ for the loss of friends for the loss of everything they held most - - - At length a Mariner stept - - - the midst and proclaimed. Attend O friends and listen to my words. A voice from on high hath penetrated my soul and the inspiration of the Almighty hath bid me proclaim. Let your sails be wide spread and the gentle winds will soon waft you into a safe harbor, a Country where you will fine hospitality. Quick as the lightnings flash joy sparkled in every countenance. A Hymn of Thanksgiving spontaneously burst forth from their lips. In full confidence that the divine prediction would be accomplished they extoled the loving kindness and tender mercies of their God and promised by the assistance of his grace to make ample return of Gratitude. On the fifth day after this we came in sight of sand, we entered a spacious river and continued sailing up The "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 17the - - - many leagues until we came in view of atown. Every heart now palpitated with joy, <fc loud shouts of gladness expressed the enthusiastic transports of our souls. We anchored within a small distance from shore. Immediately the natives ran withapparent signs of surprise and astonishment to the bankof the River. After viewing us for some time, andreceiving signs of Friendship, they appeared to holda counsel for a few minutes. Their King then steptforward to the edge of the bank, and proffered us thehand of friendship, and by significant gestures invitedus to Land, promising us protection and hospitalityWe now found ourselves once more on terra firma, andwere conducted by the king <fe four chiefs into thetown whilst the multitude followed after, shouting<fc performing many odd jesticulations. The Kingordered an entertainment to be prepared for his newfriends which consisted of - - - fish boiled beans<fc samp - - - The whole was placed under a wide-spreading Oak in wooden dishes A large clam shell anda Stone Knife were provided for each one. The kingthen came forward with about twenty of his principalsubjects, and con seated us (being about twenty innumber) and seated us by the side of our repast. He<fc his company then took seats in front. Afterwaving his hand and bowing all fell to eating and a moredelicious repast we never enjoyed. The repast beingfinished, our attention was called to a collection ofabout one thousand men and women who had formed aring and invited our company to come forward into themidst. After gazing upon us sometime with surprizewe were permitted to withdraw and to take our stand in18 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."the Ring. About forty in number then walked intothe midle of the Ring and began a song with but a discordant and hedious modification of sounds, and suchfrantic jesticulations of body that it seemed thatchaos had bro't her furies to set the world in anuproar. And an uproar it was in a short time for thewhole company fell to dancing, shouting, whooping,and screaming at intervals, then dancing jumping andtumbling with many indescribable distortions in theircountanance and indelicate jestures. In fact, theyappeared more lik a company of devils than humanBeings. This lasted about one hour. They thentook their places in a circle and at a signal given gavethree most tremendous whoops, they then instantlydispersed playing many antike capers and making sucha confused medly of sound by skreaming, whooping,screaching like owls, Barking like dogs and wolves andbellowing croaking like Bullfrogs, that my brainseemed to be turned topseturvy, and for some time Icould scarce believe that they belonged to the humanspecies.CHAPT. IIAN ACCOUNT OF THE SETTLEMENT OF THE SHIP'SCOMPANY and MANY PARTICULARS RESPECTING THE NATIVES.As no alternative now remained but either to makethe desperate attempt to return across the wide bois-trous Ocean, or to take up our residence in a countryin a land of savages inhabited by savages and wildTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 19ferocious beasts, we did not long hesitate. We helda solemn treaty with the King and all the chiefs of hisnation. They agreed to cede to us a tract of excellent land on the north part of the town on which wassix wigwams and engaged perpetual amity and hospitalityand the protection of our lives and property. In consideration of this grant we cave them fifty yards ofscarlet cloth and fifty knives With this present theywere highly pleased.Arrangements must now be made for - - - settlement. Vessel and cargo had received no materialdamage and by striping the vessel of its plank we coulderect a house in which we could deposite the wholecargo in safety. All hands were immediately employed, some in procuring timber which we hued ontwo sides and then locked together, some in procuringshingles and some in striping the vessel of its plank; andhaving a large quantity of nails on board, in tendays we finished a very convenient store-house, sufficiently spacious to receive the whole cargo. We alsobuilt a small house adjoining which was to be thehabitation of the Captain and myself. Having securedall our property, we then found it necessary to establish some regulations for the government of our littlesociety. The Captain whose name was Lucian andmyself were appointed judges in all matters of controversy and managers of the public property to makebargains with i/he natives and barter such articles aswe did not need for necessaries. As we all professedThe next thing to be done was to to believe in thereligion of ^Jesus Christ we unanimously chose Tro-20 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."janus, the mate of the ship, a pious good man to beour minister, to lead our devotions every morning andevening and on the Lords dayBut now a most singular and delicate subject presented itself for consideration. Seven young womenwe had on board as passenjers to viset certain friendsin Brittian. Three of them were ladies of rank and therest were healthy bucksom lassies. Whilst deliberating on this subject a mariner arose whom we calledDroll Tom Hark ye, shipmates says he. Whilsttossed on the foming billows what brave son ofNeptune had any more regard for a woman than aSturgeon, but now we are all safely anchored onTerra firma, our sails furled and ship keeled up, Ihave a huge longing for some of those rosy dames.But willing to take my chance with my shipmates, Ipropose that they should make their choice of husbands. The plan was instantly adopted. As thechoice fell on the young women they had a consultation on the subject, <fc in a short time madeknown the result. Droll Tom was rewarded forhis benevolent proposal with one of the mostsprightly, rosy dames in the company. Three otherof the most cheerful, resolute mariners were chosenby the other three bucksom Lassies. The threeyoung Ladies of rank fixed their choice on theCaptain the Mate and myself. Happy indeed in mypartner, I had formed^ an high esteem of the excel-lent qualities of her mind The young Lady whochose me for a partner was possessed of everyattractive charm both of body and mind. We unitedTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 21heart A hand with the fairest prospect of enjoying every delight and gratification which are attendant on the connubial state. Thus ended the affair.You may well conceive our singular situation. Thesix poor fellows who were doomed to live in a stateof celibacy or accept of savage dames, discovereda little chagrin and anxiety. However, they consoledthemselves with the idea of living in families, wherethey would enjoy the company of the fair sex, <fcbe relieved from the work which belongs to thedepartment of women.Our community might be said to be one family,tho' we lived in separate houses situate near eachother The property was common stock. whatwas produced by our labor was likewise to be common. All subject to the distribution of the judges,who were to attend to each family and to see thatpropper industry and econimy were practised by all.The Captain and myself, attended with our fair partners and two mariners, repaired to the new habitation,which consisted of. two convenient apartments.After having partook of an elligant dinner and drank abottle of excellent wine our Spirits were exhileratedand the deep gloom which beclouded our minds evaporated. The Captain assuming his wonted cheerfulness, rnada the following address. "My sweet, good"soul'd fellows, we have now commenced a new voy-1 'age. Not such as bro't us over mountain billows to"this butt end of the world. No, no, our voige is on"dry land, <fc now we must take care that we have"sufficient ballast for the riging. Every hand on"board this ship must clasp hands and condesend to each22 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY.""others humour. This will promote good cheer and"smooth the raging billows of life. Surrounded by"innumerable hordes of human beings, who resemble"in manners the Orang outang, let us keep aloof"from them and not embark in the same matrimonial"ship with them. At the same time, we will treat"them with good cheer and inlighten their dark souls"with good instruction. By continuing a different"people and prefering our customs, manners, religion"and arts and sciences and other things another Italy will"grow up in this wilderness, and we shall be celebrated"as the fathers of a great and happy nation."May God bless your soul, says one of the mariners,what would you have us do who have had the wofulluck not to get mates, to cheer our poor souls andwarm our bodies. Methinks I could pick out ahealthy plum Lass from the copper colored tr;be thatby washing and scrubing her fore and aft and upon thelabbord and stabbord sides she would become a wholesome bedfellow. I think, may it please your honour,that I could gradually pump my notions into herhead and make her a good shipmate for the cupboard andas good hearted a Christian as any of your whitedamsels and upon my Soul I warrant you if we havechildren, by feeding them with good fare, and keepingthem clean, they will be as plump and as fair and nearlyas white as your your honours children. Upon this Ifilled the bottle with wine and observing to honest Critothat he was at liberty to make the experiment if hecould find a fair - - - to his liking. I thenexpressed the the sweet pleasure I received from theTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 23addresses of the speakers A wished drank success tothe new voige. All drank plentifully, and the exhil-eration produced the greatest cheerfulness and hilarity.By this time the Sun had hid his head below thehorizon and darkness invited all the animal creation tosleep and rest. We retired two and two, hand in hand.Ladies heads a little awri, blushing like the morn <fc.... But I forgot to mention that our societypassed a resolution to build a church in the in themidst of our vilage.CHAPT. III.MANY PARTICULARS RESPECTING THE NATIVES.INTEREST as well as curiosity invited an acquaintance with our new neighbours. They were called intheir Language Deliwanucks. They were Tall, bodiesweel proportioned, strait limbs, complections of abrownish hue broad cheek bones, black wild rolingeyes, and hair black and course. To strangers they wereboth - - - true to their engagements, ardent in theirfriendship, but to enimies implacable, cruel <fe barbarous in the extreme. Innumerable hordes of thisdescription of people were scattered over an extensive country, who gained their living by hunting theelk, the deer and a great variety of other wild animalsby fishing and fowling and by raising corn, beans andsquashes Shooting the arrow, flinging stones, wrestling, jumping, hoping, and runing were their principal amusements, and prizes would often be staked as areward to the conqueror. Their cloathing consistedof skins dressed with the hair on, but in warm24 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."weather only the middle part of their bodies wereincumbered with any covering. The one half of thehead of the men was shaved and painted with red and theone half of the face was painted with black. Thehead was adorned with feathers of various kinds, andtheir ears and noses were adorned ornamented withrings formed formed from the sinues of certain animals, on which were suspended smooth stones ofdifferent coulors. Thus cloathed, thus painted, thusornimented, the Deliwannuck made a most terrif- - - They held festivals at stated times whichvaried in the manner of conducting them, accordingto the object they had in view. At one of theirannual festivals their ceremonies were particularlysingular and different from any that were ever practisedby any nation. Here a description would give ussome idea of their religion, and would gratify the curiosity of an injenious mind.When the time arives, which is in September, thewho whole tribe assemble. They are dressed and ornimented in the highest fashion. The women in particular have their garments and heads so adorned withfeathers, shells, and wampum, that they make a verybrilliant and grotesque appearance. The form a circle: their countanances are solemn. A Speakermounts a stage in the midst. At this moment twoBlack Dogs led by two Boys and two white Dogsled by two young damsels enter the circle and aretied together. The Speaker then extended hishands and spoke. Hail, ye favorite children of thegreat and good Spirit, who resides in the Sun<£ I IBRA^YTHE "MANUSCRIPT -STO/M\*\*\*' 'who 18 the father of all living, creatures and whosearms encircle us all around, who'x^f^rida us fromthe malicious design of that greatthat pours upon us all the evils we endure Hegives us all our meat <fe our life and causes thecorn and the fruits to spring up and makes us to rejoicein his goodness. He hath prepared a delightfulCountry to receive us, if we are valiant in battle orare benevolent <fe good. There we can pick allkinds of delicious fruit, and have game and fish inabundance <fc our women being improved in beautyand sprightliness will cause our hearts to dance withdelight. But wo unto you wicked, malicious mischievous mortals. Your lot will be cast in a darkdreary, mirey swamp, where the malignant Spiritwill torment you with musquetoes and serpents and willgive you nothing to eat but toads, frogs and snails.But my dear friends, all hail, here is a customwhich is sanctioned by time immemorial. Looksteadfastly on the black dogs and let not your eyesbe turned away, when they are thrown on thesacred pile <fe the flames are furiously consumingtheir bodies, then let your earnest prayer assendfor pardon and your transgressions will flee awaylike shadows and your sins will be carried by thesmoke into the shades of oblivion. When this solemn expiatory sacrifice is ended, then prepare yoursouls to partake of the holy festival Each one willreceive a precious morsel from these immaculatesnow colored dogs, in token that your offences haveall evaporated in the smoke of the holy sacrifice.and that you are thankful to him the benevolent26' THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."Spirit, for the abundance of good things that youenjoy, and that you humbly anticipate the continuance of his blessing that he will defend you againstthe evil designs of that malignant Spirit, who givesus gawl and wormwood, and fills our bosom with painand our eyes with tears. He then proclaimed, let thesacred pile be erected and the solemn sacrifice performed. Instantly about one hundred men comeforward with small dry wood and bundles of dry sticksand having thrown them in one pile within the circle,they set the pile on fire. The black dogs wereknocked on the middle head, and thrown on thetop,- in a moment all was in a blaze and the flamesassended in curls to heaven. The whole companyassumed the most devout attitude and muttered insounds almost inarticulate their humble confessionand earnest requests.When the dogs were consumed and the fire nearlyextinguished, the ceremonies of their sacred festivalbegan. The white dogs which were very plump andfat were knocked on the head and their throats cut.Their hair was then singed off, having first theirentrails taken out, and being suspended by the nosebefore a hot fire, they were soon roasted, thrownupon a long table and desected into as many pieces asthere were persons to swallow them. The companyimmediately formed a procession, one rank of menthe other of women, the men marching to the left andthe women to the right of the table, each one took apiece and devoured it with as good a - - - if it hadbeen the most delicious moreel. Having completedthese sacred ceremonies with great solemnity, theTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY.'1 27whole company formed themselves into a compactcircle round the stage ten musitians immediatelymounted, and facing the multitude on every side sang asong. The tune and the musical voices of the singerspleased the ear, whilst the imagination was delightedwith the poetic inginuity of the composition. Themultitude all joined in the chorus with voice so loudand multifarious, that the atmosphere quaked with terror, and woods and neighbouring hills sent back by wayof mockery, sent back the sound of their voices,their vociferation improved by ten -fold confusion.Perhaps, reader, you have the curiosity to hear thesong. I can give you only the last stanzy and thechorus."For us the sun emits his rais"The moon shines forth for our delight."The stars shine forth extol our heroes praia"And warriors flee before our sight.CHORUS."Delawan to chakee poloo"Manegengo forwah toloo"Chanepant, lawango chapah"Quinebogan hamboo gowah.The solemnities are ended and in their opinion theirpoor souls are compleatly whitewashed and every stainentirely effaced. A little - - - will now dissipatethe solemnity and inspire them with cheerfulness andmeriment. The whole tribe repair to the top of anhill, at one place their is a gradual slope a small distance, <fc then it desends about twenty-five feet in analmost perpendicular direction, at the bottom ofwhich is a quagmire which is about ten feet in length.28 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."and the soft mud is about three feet deep. At eachend the ground is soft, but not miry. Down thisdeclivity twenty pair of very suple and sprightly youngmen and women are to desend. If by their dexterityand agility they escape the quagmire, a piece of wampum will be the reward of each fortunate champion ;but if they plunge in their recompense will be theridicule of the multitude. In making this desent, sixyoung women and five young men by a surprizingdexterity in whirling their bodies as they desended,cleared themselves from the quagmire. The rest astheir turn came, plunged in and came out most wofullymuded to the great diversion of the Spectators. Theincident which excited the most meriment, hapnedwhen the last pair desended. by an unlucky spring toclear himself from the quagmire he bro't his bodyalongside of the declivity and roled his whole lengthinto the midst of the quagmire, where he lay hiswhole length in an horizontaj^position on his backneither heels nor head up, but horizontally, soft andeasy, but alas, when one unlucky event happensanother follows close on its heals, the fair-plumpcorpulent damsel his affectionate sweetheart cameinstantly sliding with great velocity. She saw thewoful position of her beloved. She wished him noharm, she raised her feet, this bro't the center ofgravity directly over the center of his head, here sherested a moment, his head sunk, she sunk after him,his heels kicked against the wind like Jeshuranwaxed fat, but not a word from his lips, but his ideascame in quick succession, tho't he, what a disgraceto die here in the mud under the pressure of myTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 29sweet heart, however his time for such reflectionswere short, the tender hearted maid collecting all heragility in one "effort, dismounted and found herself ondry land in an instant, not a moment to be lost. Sheseized her lover by one leg, and draged him from themud, a curious figure extending about six feet sixinches on the ground, all besmeared from head tofoot, spitting, puffing, panting and struggling forbreath. Poor man, the whole multitude laughing atthy calamity, shouting ridiculing, none to give theeconsolation but thy loving and sympathetic partnerin misfortune.Upon my soul, exclaims 1 >n»ll T«>m. Stoni f<>rem<^t.That bouncing Lass ought to have the highest prizefor drawing her ship from the mud. She was cleaning the filth from his faoe.CHAPT. IV.A JOURNEY TO THE N. W. and REMOVALLGracious God! how deplorable our situation Are wedoomed to dwell among hordes of savages <fc bedeprived of all intercourse with friends and the civilizedworld? and what will be the situation of our offspring?Will they preserve our customs <fc manners, cultivatethe arts and sciences and maintain our holy religion; ori-athtT will they not rather degenerate into savages andby mingling with them become the most - - - raceof beings in existence. Who can indure such reflection, such heart-rending anticipation? They pourupon my soul like a flood and bear me down with theweight of a milstone. O that my head were water, and30 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."my eyes a fountain of tears, Then my intolerableburthen should should be poured forth in a torrent andmy soul set at liberty. But behold the light springsup and beams upon my soul. She brings in her trainHope that celestial Codes, that sure and strong anchorthat dispenser of comfort and pleasing anticipation, andthat dispeller of corroding grief and blank dispair. Shebids me review the exploded reasoning of of a greatphilosopher and compare it with my own observations,perhaps the result will point out a safe road to theland of our nativity.Thus I reasoned respecting the solar system ofwhich the earth is a part. Provided the earth is stationary according to the present system of philosophy, then the sun the moon and the plannets, being atan immense distance from the earth, must performtheir revolutions around her with inconceivablevelocity; Whereas, if according to the platonio system, the earth is a globe and the sun is stationary, thenthe earth by a moderate velocity - - - perform herrevolutions. This scheme will represent the solarsystem as displaying the transendant wisdom of itsAlmighty architect, for in this we behold the Sunsuspended by Onmipotence and all the plannets movinground him as their common center in exact order andharmony. In this we can easily account for days andnights and the diferent seasons of the year. When theearth presents one part of her face to the sun it isday, and when that part is turned from his beams it isnight. When she varies to the South the sun shinesupon us in a more perpendicular direction, the sunbeams become more dense and the heat increases, asTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 31she turns back the heat decreases in proportion asthis part of the earth looses its perpendicular direction, <fc to the sun and the cold becomes more intense inthe same proportion. This account for the variousseasons of the year appears correct and consistent andhighly honourable to the divine perfection.But behold the other system. The earth firmlyfixed on a firm foundation, perhaps a stone, some sayon a giants back who stands on a - - - back. Itssurface widely extends nearly horizontal, <fc its cutdown <fc its sides cut down Btrait or perpendicular tothe the very bottom, below which is a fathomlessabis8. Pray, Mr. Philosopher, what man was everthere and looked down and what prevents the Ocean,u n 1 ess it is damd with earth and rooka, from pouringdown A- loosing itsr'f in this ImrnMe a)>in? IUit h<>\vexpensive is this teraqueous surface? Indeed I am ofopinion if this system is true, I am nearly at one endof it. But the hipothises is too absurd and inconsistent.The earth must be of a spherical form <fc a westerlycourse will lead us to the land of our nativity. Perhaps this is a par! of the eastern foiitiiit'iit, <>r j.er-haps only a narrow strip of the Ocean intervenes?On no other principle can we account for the emigration of the ancestors of these innumerable hords ofhuman beings that possess this continent. Theirtradition is that their ancestors came from the west,and they agree in their information that at the distanceof fifteen days journey in > westernly direction there32 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."are nations vastly more numerous, powerful <fc civil -ized than themselves.The earth therefore must be of a spherical forma Globe and a westerly course will lead us to the landof our nativity. On what principle can we accountfor emigration of the ancestors of these innumerable hords of human beings that possess thisContinent? Their tradition tells them that they emigrated from the westward. From this I draw theconclusion that the sea if any, which intervenesbetween the two Continents at the westward is notso extensive but that it may be safely navigatedI have also learnt from some of the natives Weare also informed by some of the natives that atthe distance of about fifteen days journey in anorth westerly course there is a great river whichruns in a south westerly direction, they can not tellhow far and that along the banks of this river thereare great towns and mighty kings and a people wholive in a state of civilation. From all these con 7siderations I am determined to remove, pursue awesterly course, and seek the delightful country of myancestors. I immediately communicated my determination and the reasons on which it was founded toour little Society, who joyfully acquiesced. It was thot to be the most prudential to find out the disposition and character of the inhabitants, who weresettled along the great River lest we should fall intothe hands of Robbers. For this purpose my manCrito and myself and a Delawan for an interpreter setforth. We passed thro\* a country interspersed withTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 33vilages, inhabited by the same kind of people asthe Delawans, until we came to a great Mountain.Having passed over this, we had not traveled farbefore we came to the confluence of two great riverswhich in conjunction produced a river which wascalled Owaho, deep enough for the navigation ofships. Here was a lagge town or city inhabited bya different race of people from any we had seenbefore. We were immediately conducted to the Kingand were received who received us very graciously,and having asked a number of very pertinent questions <fc received answer to his satisfaction, I thenmade known to him our business and had all myrequests granted. As we proposed to move into histerritory, he offered to furnish us for our convenience, with four Mammoons A four men to managethem. These were an animal of prodigious magnitude even biger than the elephant, which thenatives had tamed <fc domesticated. They were verysagacious and docile and were employed in caryingburthens and in drawing timber and in plowing theirland. Their hair at the Spring season was aboutseven inches in length, and was of a fine wooly consistence, and being sheared off at the proper season,was manufactured into course cloath. And the milkof the female which they produced in abundance,afforded a very wholesome nutriment. Having thussucceeded beyond our expectations, we made asmuch expidition to return as possible. We arrivedin safety without any material accidents. The Little Society I had left were greatly rejoiced at ourreturne, <fc highly pleased with the account we gave34 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY.'1of the country we had visited, and at the sight ofthose extraordinary and prodigious animals Mammoonswhich we had bro't to convey our baggage. Notime was lost to make preparation for the journey.The Captain, Mate and myself went to the King and helda conference with him and the chiefs and obtained leaveto depart, tho' with apparent regret and reluctance.Sacks were provided from course cloth to receivethe most valuable part of our goods and furniture.These were thrown across three of the MammoonsThe other was caparisoned in a manner too tediousto describe for the accommodation of our women andchildren. They were all mounted upon him and rodewith great convenience and safety. Being thus prepared and ready Thus having resided among the Deli-wans two years, and being prepared to take our departure. The King and his chiefs and many of his principalSubjects came forward to take an affectionate farewell. This was done on both sides with with mutualexpressions of the most ardent and sincere friendshipand the most earnest wishes and prayers for future prosperity and happiness. Having taken our final adieu 1observed honest Crito sheding tears very plentifully. You seem to be affected, said I. God blessyour honour said he, when I think how kind and generous these poor Delawans have been to us, I cannot help feeling an affection and friendship for them.We were obliged to anchor amongst them, we werestrangers, and helpless, and they were ignorant Savages,yet they held out the hand of kindness, and treatedus as brothers and sisters. Have they not fulfilld thelaw of Christian charity? O that they were goodTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 36Christians, may God forgive their ignorance A unbelief, and reward them for their kindness and genosity.We passed on. No obsticles impeded our journeyuntil we came to the great river Suscowan, whichlif.s, runs between the Deliwah River and the greatmoun mountain. The water being too deep for fording, we built a small boat, and with this at severaltimes, we conveyed the whole of the baggage andcompany and baggage across, except the managers of the Mammoons, who mounted them Afforded and swamacross. We then proceeded on by slow marches.- - - But in crossing the great mountain we hadsome difficulties to encounter, but however metwith received no material damage, but finally arivedsafely at the great city Owkahon on the twenty -fifth day after our departure from Delawan.Fatigued with a long and difficult journey great joyand gladness were visible in every in\_ countanance <feall were disposed to establish our residence here,until further information could be obtained, and furthermeasures concerted to prosecute our journey toEurope. The King and his principal officers profferedus every assistance necessary to make our situationagreeable. They assigned us in compliance with ourrequest conformity to our desire a number of houseson the bank of the river a little distance from thecity. We made him some valuable presents in return,which he received as a token of friendship, but not asa compensation. For such was the high sense ofhonour which this prince sustained, that when hemade a present he would take it as an insult to offerhim anything as a compensation.36 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."Having now once more become settled our littlecommunity continued the same regulations whichthey had established at Deliwan and all things proceeded in peace and our affairs prospered.CHAP. V.A DESCRIPTION OF THE OHONS, and MANNER OFPROCURING A LIVING.I AM now to describe a species of nation who havebut little resemblance to those to those inumerabletribes of savages, who live along the coast of theAtlantic. Their complexion, the form and constructionof their bodies, their customs manners laws government and religion all demonstrate that they must haveoriginated from some other nation and have but a verydistant affinity with their savage neighbors. As totheir persons they were taller on an average than Ihad ever seen in any nation, their bones were largelimbs strait and shoulders broad. Their eyes rathersmalll and sunk deep in the head. Their foreheadswere prominent and the face below tapering in such amanner that the chin that was formed nearly to apoint. As to their complexion it was bordering onan olive tho' of a lighter shade. Their eyes weregenerally of a dark brown or black. Their hair of the same color, tho' I have sometimes seen persons,whose hair was of a redish hue.They cloathed themselves in choath which wasmanufactured among themselves from the hair of theMammoon and from Cotton, which was transportedfrom the South west westward. The men wore shoesTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY.1' 87<fc long stockings wide trouses, a waistcoat <t a garment with wide short sleaves, which came down totheir nees, and in cold weather a cloak over the whole.The covering for the head was generaly a kind ofa Cap, which ran up high and tapered to a point. Thiswas generally made of fur skins and was ornimentedwith feathers. It had a small brim in the shape of anhalf moon to project over the forehead. The womenbesides stockings and shoes wore a short petecoat a shirtof cotton a loose garment with sleaves which theygirted round them with belts and a cloack. They hadvarious orniments such as ribbons made from cottonand coulared with different coulars, the most beautifulfeathers that could be obtained and shells of variouskinds. Indeed the higher class of women wereextremely fond of ornament, and wore placed a largeshare of their happiness in the brilliancy <fe gaudyappearance of their garments. These people obtainedtheir living generally by the cultivation of the Land, andthe manage by tending and managing certain animalswhich had been so long domesticated that they hadlost their wild nature and become tame. Corn, wheat,beans, squashes and carrots they raised in great abundance. The ground was plowed by horses and generally made very mellow for the reception of theseed.It was the occupation of a certain part of the mento tend upon the tame animals, to drive them to pasture, and keep them from straying, and feed them whenthe snow was on the ground. Two men would tendtwenty Mammouth, which were indifferent whetherthey fed on grass or cropt the bushes. When these38 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."animals were fat their flesh was highly esteemed.They had droves of Elk, which they had so tamedand tutored that they could manage them as theypleased. These had their tenders (several wordsillegible) and would follow them like a flock ofof sheep. and it was but seldom that any would leavetheir companions. The elk constituted a considerable portion of their animal food. The horses weremanaged in the same way and the people tho't theirmeat to be a savoury dish. They had large numbersof turkies and gees, which tho' originally wild, yet bytreating them with great familiarity by croping theirwings and feeding them they frequently they discoveredno disposition to ramble off, but would propogatedtheir species and laid eggs in abundance.Hunting and fishing were the employment of someothers followed the mechanical buciness and others carried on a bartering trade to the Southwestward in orderto furnish to furnish the people with cotton and other articles whose production was not congenial to their climate. By pursuing these various employments theygenerally had an abundance of provision and were atall seasons comfortably cloathed. And here I wouldremark as one striking characteristic of this people,that they observed great neatness in their dress, intheir cookery and in their houses.The manufacturing of lead Iron and lead was understood, but was not carried on to that extent and perfection as in Europe. A small quantity of Iron inproportion to the number of Inhabitants served tosupply them with all the impliments which customTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY" 39had made necessary for their use. By hammering andhardening their Iron they would convert it nearlyinto the consistence of Steal and fit it for the purpose ofedged tools.The potery business was conducted with greatinginuity and great quantities of stone and earthen wareconsisting of every kind of vessel of every construction which were needed for family use, were manufactured in every part of this extensive country.They would These vessels they they ornimented withpictures with the likenessess of various kinds of animals and trees and impressed upon them such coulars aswould strike the fancy with delight. The females of the high Class most welthy Class would often have alarge and superfluous quantity of this brittle furnitureto decorate one apartment of the house. The vesselsthey arranged in such order as to make a displayof taste and impress the mind with the agreeable sensation of beauty.In Architecture there can be no comparison withthe civilized nations of Europe. In their most welthyand populous Cities they their houses and public buildings exhibit no eligance, no appearance of wealth orgrandure, all is plain <fc nothing superfluous. Butconvenience seems to be the whole object they had inview in the construction of their buildings of everykind.Their houses were generally but one story highbuilt of wood, being framed and covered with splitclapboards or shingles, and in the inside the walls wereformed of clay, which was plastered over with a thin40 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."coat of lime. Their houses seldom consisted of morethan three apartments. As to their chimneys theybuilt construct a wall of stone about five feet hightfor the fire to be against which they build their fire,from the top of this wall they construct the chimneywith thin pieces of split timber, on the inside with wetdirt or clay of which they plaister wet dirt or claywhich compleatly covers and adheres to the timber andprevents the fire from having any operation upon it.The inside of their houses as the women generallypractise neatness, makes a much better appearancethan the outside.It is my opinion says Trojanus that this people display a taste in building which is formed upon thetrue principles of Reason. Their houses are sufficiently spacious for convenience. No expense orLabour are thrown away in building useless apartments or in erecting their houses higher than whatconvenience requires. The whole catalogue of ornamental trumpery is neglected. This in Rome produces more than half the Labour and expense inbuilding. Yes says Lucian, and without this theselabouring people must starve for want of employ-ment, and the citizens of the Roman empire would bedeprived of the honour of possessing a splendid Capitaland of the exquisite pleasure of beholding the greatestexhibition of human ingenuity in the elegance thesplendour the purity and beauty of their houses, theirpalaces and their public edifices. True indeed, repliesTrojanus, men may be dazed and delighted with suchobjects for the moment, But could not wealth be bet-THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 41ter bestowed upon to promote interest of the community A for charitable purposes <fe these artiststn-tter employ their strength A ingenuity in producingsome substantial benefits to themselves A others?Rejoins Lucian, the course reason dictates is to avoidextremes. A slab coulared world would, tire thesenses by its uniformity A too much orniment Asplendor, would cease to please by its frequency.Besides, lofty houses can be more easily overthrown by tornadoes or tumbled down upon ourheads by earthquakes. The course, says Lucianthat reason dictates is to avoid extremes. A slabcoulored world by its uniformity would tire thesenses, A by its possessing too much ornament Asplendor it would cease to please. (But the wonderwont cease when it is considered that mankind withbut few exceptions to walk in the tracks of theirfathers A to pursue the road marked out by theireducation.)CHAP. VI.DESCRIPTION OF THE LEARNING, RELIGION and CUSTOMSOF THE OHONS.LEARNING appears to be so important to the natureof man A a good convenient share of it so easy toobtain, that some may wonder why it is not universally diffused thro\* the world. But If we can placeany reliance on the dark annals of antient history, itis certain that letters are indebted for their existenceto the inventive genius of certain extraordinary char-42 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."acters. Egypt and Chaldea contended for the honourof being the first who invented letters. Perhaps theywere invented in each nation nearly at the same time.But let this be as it may could no other nation in theworld produce as great geniuses as Egypt orChaldea?\* Is there any natural obsticle to preventtheir production in America as well as in Asia?Whatever may be the reasoning of some on this subject, the fact is that I found Letters or some share oflearning, tho' in a very imperfect state among thispeople. At present I shall wave the account of itsintroduction and shall merely describe the state oflearning as it existed among the Ohons. They hadcharacters which represent words and all compoundwords were had each part represented by its appropriate character. The variation of cases, moods andtenses was designated by certain marks placed underthe characters. They generally wrote on parchmentand beginning at the right wrote from the top to the bottom, placing each character directly under the proceeding one and having finished one column or line theybegin the write the next on the left of that and so continue on until they cover the parchment if the subjectrequires it. It is a work of considerable labour <fctime to obtain such a knowledge of their characters andthe application as to be able to read with fluencey and towrite with ease and accuracy.In the principal Cities and towns the governmentappointed learned men to instruct the sons of the\* Note. The most probable conjecture is that they were communicated fromone nation to the other.THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY.11 43higher class of Citizens <fc in the course of four or fiveyears they will make such proficiency as to becometolerable schollars.The works of the learned are not very voluminous.Records are kept of the transactions of their government. Their constitution and laws are committed towriting. A sacred Roll in manuscript is preservedamong the Records of tln-ir Kmporors <fe kings. <fc aredispersed thro\* the Empire <fe much pains taken todiffuse the knowledge of them among the people. Inall their large towns and Cities they have depositedunder the care of a priest a sacred Roll which contains the tenets of their Theology and a description oftheir religious ceremonies. This order of men publish comments upon these sacred writings. Theypublish some tracts on moral philosophy and some containing a collection of proverbs and the wise sayingsof their sages.But the kind of composition in which they mostexult is poetry. In poetic numbers they describethe great events which take place and the exploits andmighty achievements of their heroes. In soft elegiesthey describe paint the Amours of Lovers and inpathetic strains they delineate the calamities of sorrow of the unfortunate.In their assemblies it is very common for a certainclass of these learned poets to entertain the company(- - - line gone - - - -) with a resital of poeticpieces describing the baties <fc exploits of their warriors, or to sing some arnourous or witty ballad. Asfor theators they have none, but as a kind of sussti-tute there are actors who entertain the people by44 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."pronounsing dialogues or plays in which they displayall the arts of mimicry and act out the express in theircountanance their gesture and the tone of their voicesthe different passions of the human mind. As onlya small portion of the people are instructed in thearts of reading and writing, of consequence the greatmass must possess a large share of ignorance, butnot so great a share as savages who have no learning among them. They hear the conversation and thelectures of their sages, they are entertained with Theirpoetic orators entertain them with the productionsof their poets, containing the history of great eventsand mighty athievements. Their actors divert and pleasethem by exciting the various passions at the sametime communicating instruction and correcting the natural savageness of manner by and as the pieces theyrehearse contain many ideas and sentiments tending toexpose the deformity of vice and the folly of superstition and the disgustingness of rude and clownish manners, the people are of consequence improved andconsiderably refined and add to their living in compacttowns or considerable cities in which there is a constant and reciprocal communication of ideas, which ofcourse would have no small effect to inform theirminds. To all these causes combined the Ohons thegreat mass of the people are indebted for possessinga considerable share of knowledge and civilization.THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 45RELION VH.IN every nation there is some kind of Religion and inevery religion, however adulterated and corrupted, thereare some things which are\* commendable, somethings which serve to improve the morals and influencemankind to conduct better than what they would doprovided they pursued the natural dictates of theirdepraved mind, without any restraint As this sentiment is an established maxim which has been believedin every nation from the earliest ages in every nation,hense it has been the policy of all governments toencourage and protect some kind of religion. In examining the religious systems, sentiments <fc preceptswhich are believed and practised throughout this extensive Empire, and which are encouraged and protected bythe government. I found some things which arecommon to the various systems of theology in Europeand Asia, and some things which have no resemblance toeither From the sacred Roll as it is denominated Ishall extract the tenets of their theology and a description of their religious ceremonies. It expresses themthem to this effect"There is an intelligent omnipotent Being who isself-existent <fc infinitely good <fc benevolent. Mattereternally existed. He put forth his hand and formed itinto such bodies as he pleased. He presides over theuniverse <fc has a perfect knowledge of all things.From his own spiritual substance he formed sevensons. These are his principal agents to manage the46 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."affairs of his empire. He formed the bodies of menfrom matter. Into each body he emitted infussed aparticle of his own spiritual substance, in consequence of which man in his first formation wasinclined to benevolence and goodness. There is alsoanother great intelligent Being who is self -existent andpossessed of great power but not of Omnipotence.He is filled with infinite malice against the goodBeing and exerts all his subtlety and power to ruin hisworks. Seing the happy situation of man heapproached so near as to tuch his soul with hisdeliterious -hand. The poison was immediately diffused and contaminated his passions and appetites. Hisreason and understanding received no injury. Thegood being looking upon his unhappy offspring withinfinite love and compassion, made a decree that ifmankind would reduce their passions and appetitesunder the government of reason, he should be enjoyblessings in this world, and be compleatly happy afterdeath his soul quits his body. Death dissolves theconnection. Material Bodies are prepared for thesouls of the righteous. These bodies can pass thro'any part of the universe and are invisible to mortaleyes. Their place of residence is on a great and cityvast plain, which is beautiful with magnificent buildings, with Trees fruits and flowers. Here they enjoyevery delight which No imagination can paint thedelights the felicity of the Righteous. But thewicked have no etherial are denied etherial bodies.Their souls naked and incapable of seeing light dwel indarkness and are tormented with the keenest anguish.THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 47Ages roll away A the good Being has compassionupon them. He permits them to take possession ofetherial bodies and they arise quick to the abodes ofdelight and glory. Now, O man, attend to thy duty <fcthou shalt escape the portion of the wicked. <fc enjoyall the delights of the righteous. Avoid all acts ofcruelty to man and beast.\*defraud not thy neighbours nor suffer thy handssecretly to convey his property from him. Preservethy body from the contamination of lust, <fe rememberthat the seduction of thy neighbours wife would be agreat Crime. Let thy citizens be numbered once intwo years, A if the young women who are fit for mar-riage are more numerous than the young men, thenwealthy men who are young <fc who have but one wifeshall have the privilege with the permission of theking to marry another until the number of the singleyoung women A the single young men are madeequal. But he who hath two wives shall have ahouse provided for each and he shall spend his timeequally with each one.Be grateful for all favours A forsake not thy friendin adversity. Treat with kindness and reverence thyParents. Forsake them not in old age nor let theircheek be furrowed with tears for the want of bread.Bow down thy head before the aged, treat thy superiors with respect, and place thy rulers and thy teachers inthe most honourable seats. Let Rulers consult thewelfare of the people and not agrandize themselves by\*No crime Is BO horrid as maliciously to destroy the life of man.48 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."oppression and base bribes. Let Religious Teacherswalk in the road which leads to celestial happiness andlead the people after them. Let Parents restrain thevices of their children and instruct their minds in usefulknowledge. Contention and Strife is is the Bane ofFamilies and the destruction of domestick happiness,being yoked together the husband and wife ought todraw in the same direction. Their countanances willthen appear beautiful shine with the effulgent Beamsof Friendship and love, peace and harmony will attendtheir habitation and their affairs will prosper.Hold out the hand of kindness and friendship tothy neighbour, consider him when reduced to indigenceand distress, He is as dear to the great and good being a-swhat thou art. and thou now hast an opportunity tomanifest the disposition of thy heart To afford himrelief will be pleasing to thy Maker and an expressionof thy gratituge.Envious and malicious Souls are almost incurablycontaminated with that hellish poison which whichwas first disordered the soul of man. Partake not oftheir guilt by joining them in the malignant work ofslander and detraction. Their intended mischief returnsupon their own heads, and the slandered character of the innocent and just shines forth with increasing lustre. Let the stranger find an hospitable restingplace under thy roof. Give him to eat from thy portion that when he departs he may bless thee and go onhis way rejoicing.Industry will Say not to thyself I will indulgeinactivity and idleness and lie upon the bed of sloth andTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." . 49slumber away the precious moments of time, for inthis thou art unwise, for unwise disease will attendthee, hunger will torment thee and Rags will be thyclothing. Let industry and economy fill up the measure of thy waking moments. So shall thy counta-nance display health and sprightliness, plenty shallsupply the wants of thy family and thy reputation shallbe respectable.But behold a being in human form from whom Iturn away in disgust and abhorrence. He is coveredwith so much dirt and filth that no etherial body isprovided for him nor can he be received into theabodes of the blessed. Suffer not thy bodies or thygarments to remain long besmeared with dirt and filth.Cleanliness prevents many diseases <fc is pleasant tothe sight. But from a dirty filthy mortal we turnwith disgust and abhorrance. As the great Author ofour existence being is benevolent to all his offspring,so it becomes us to be benevolent to our fellow beingsaround us. Oou Country is one body and we are partof its members. We are therefore bound to maintaintheir rights and priviledges and the the honour and dignityof our Country at the risk of our lives. Greatrewards attend the brave and their exploits and achievements in contending against tyrants and in defendingthe Rights their of their Country will be celebrated onthe plains. But the vision now expands and directsour contemplation to fix on his attributes, whosespiritual substance is commensurate with infinity.As only a single particle from his substance constitutes our souls, how small how diminutive must we50 m THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."appear in the view of Omniscience. We must therefore contemplate his attributes thro\* the medium ofhis works, and admire with profound reverance andadoration his wisdom goodness and power which arevisible in the formation and arrangement of all materialbodies and spiritual beings. He requires us to supli-cate his favours, and when received to express ourgratitude. As our passions and appetites often get theassendence of our reason, we are therefore bound toconfess our faults and implore forgiveness.Now that you may know and keep all these thingwhich were made known by divine inspiration, it isordained that on every eighth day, ye lay aside allunnecessary labour, that ye meet in convenientnumbers and form assemblies, that at each assemblya learned holy man shall preside, who shall lead yourdevotions and explain this sacred Roll and give you suchinstruction as shall promote your happiness in thislife and in the life to come. Once in three months yeshall hold a great festival in every great city and town,and your priests shall sacrifice an Elk as a token thatyour sins deserve punishment, but that the divinemercy hath banished them into shades of forgetful-ness.Be attentive oh man, to the words of truth whichhave been recorded and and respect to all the commandments which have been written for your observance.Your Maker will then be rejoiced to see you rejoicein the participation of his favour and to behold yourfaces brighten with the cheering benign beams ofcheerfulness.THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 51AN ACCOUNT OF BASKA CHAP VIIIAMONG the great A illustrious characters who haveappeared in the world in different ages as instructorsand reformers of mankind, Baska holds is entitled to aconspicuous place.The place of his nativity is not recorded. But thefirst notice which is given of him is his appearing at thegreat City of Golanga, which is situate on the Banksof the Siota River. He was attended by his wife andtwo little sons. The fashion of their garments weredifferent from the natives. Their complexion likewise was of a little whiter. They were Baska wasgrave solemn and sedate reserved in his conversation,but when he spoke wisdom proceeded from his lips.His fame spread rapidly thro' the city and country, andhe was celebrated as a man of the most brilliant andextraordinary talents. He was conducted to the Kingand introduced to him. The King asked him fromwhat country he came. His reply was, at a greatdistance from the westward. He then asked himinduced him to come into his country. He repliedCHAPT VHIPERHAPS reader, before we describe the governmentof the Ohons it might be proper to relax our mind bywith a few seeches of Biography. The characterwhich will best connect with the history of the learning and religion and the government^: laws of the Ohonsis that of the great and illustrious Lobaska.52 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."He is the man who first introduced their presentmethod of writing who presented them with thesacred Roll which contains the tenets and precepts oftheir religion, and who formed their political constitution as it respects the connection of various kingdomsor tribes under one government.There are many anecdotes which tradition hashanded down respecting this extraordinary man,which have the complexion of fables the miraculous andhence I conclude they must be fabulous Such as hisAs for instance he is represented as forming a curiousmachine by which and having placed himself upon it hemounted into the Atmosphere and assended a greathight and having sailed a considerable time distancethro' the air he desended slowly and received nodamage and that multitudes of astonished Spectatorshad a number of times seen him perform this miraculous exploit, and that he declared that when he tookthese excursions, his extraordinary wisdom and knowledge was communicated to him. If he did in factperform such exploits no wonder that he managed anignorant people as he pleased. But as it is not myintention to amuse my readers by a splendid relationof fables, I shall confine myself to facts which cannot be contested. The place of his nativity is notrecorded. The first account given of him was hisappearance in the great City of Golanga which issituate on the Banks of the Siota River. When heentered that city he was attended by his wife and foursons the the eldest of whom was about eighteen yearsof age. He himself appeared to be about forty. HisTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 68personal appearance was commanding being of mid-ling Stature of a bold frank countanance and eyes livelyand penetrating. In his general deportment he wascheerful yet displayed much sedateness and gravity.He was affable and familiar in conversation but notloquacious, he never would converse long on triflingsubjects, had a wonderful faculty to intermix somewise sayings <fc remarks that should improve and ofturning with dignity and gravefulness the attentionof the company to subjects that were important andinteresting. None could then withstand the energyof his reasoning, and all were astonished at the ingenuity of his arguments and the great knowledge andwisdom which he displayed. His fame spread thro\*the City Ajnulti <fc country A multitudes frequentlyassembled and importuned him to give them instruction.Always cheerful to gratify the curiosity and complywith the reasonable requests of the multitude, heentertained them by conversing with them familiarly,and by exhibiting public discourses. All were charmedwith his wisdom and eloquence, and all united in pronouncing him to be the most extraordinary man inexistence, and generally believed that he had conversation with the celestial beings, and always acted underthe influence of divine inspiration. The people werevery liberal in their donations, which enabled him tosupport his family in affluence. Having thus in ashort time established a character with respect towisdom and eloquence to any man who had everappeared before him in the nation, he then at anenterview which he held with the king and the chiefstold them that he had invented the art of expressingB4 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."ideas by certain marks or characters, and havingexplained the nature of the subject to their full satisfaction, he then proposed to establish a school for theinstruction of the sons of the principal subjects of theKing. This proposal was received and accepted withmuch gratitude and cheerfulness. A house was immediately prepared for the accommodation of Schollars,and in a short time the number amounted to nearly twohundred. But here it must be observed that the artof making and applying the characters to the wordswhich they represented, was taught principally byhis sons. They had all received an education fromtheir father and even the youngest who was but elevenyears old could read and write with great correctness.and facility. He superintended their instruction and veryfrequently gave them lectures on scientific and moralsubjects, his schollars made great progress in learning and delighted their parents with the improvementthey had made in literature civilization and refinement.He still continued to associate among the people, andwas indefatigable in his labours to dispel their ignorance, correct their superstition and vices and to diffuse amore accurate knowledge of the mechanical arts.The manufacture of Iron in particular was not known.This he taught a number by showing them how tobuild a small furnace, and to cast iron ware, and then tobuild a small forge and there refine pigs, and convertthem into Iron.He had resided among the Siotans about threeyears, and the happy effects of his labours were visibleto all observers. A great reformation had takenplace in the morals and manners of the people, IndustryTHE ''MANUSCRIPT STORY." 66had encreased,\_and agriculture A the mechanical artshad received great improvement and houses were builton a more commodious and eligant construction. Butnot willing to stop here the benevolent mind of thegreat Tobaska meditated a more important revolution. Now was the propitious era\_to had arived and theway was prepared for the introduction of that systemof Theology, which is comprized in the sacred Roll.In the first place he read and explained the wholesystem to the King and the chiefs of the nation, whocordially gave it their approbation and gave permissionto propogate it among the people. Under the pretense that this system was revealed to him in severalenterviews, which he had been permitted to have withthe second son of the great <fc good Being, the peopledid not long hesitate but received as sacred anddivine truth every word which he taught them. Theyforgot their old religion which was a confused andabsurd medly of Idolitry and superstitious nonsense andembraced a religion more sublime and consistent,db more fraught with sentiments which would promote the happiness of mankind in this world.Whilst the Siotans were thus rapidly progressingin their improvements they were unhappily disturbedby the certain prospect of war. Bombal, the Kingof the Kentucks, a nation that lived on the south sideof the great River Ohio, had taken great umbrageagainst Kadokam the King of Siota. This Bombalwas the most haughty and the jnost powerful princewho reigned in this part of the western Continent. Ithad been the custom for several ages for the King56 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."and chiefs of the Kentucks to have the exclusiveright to wear in their caps a bunch of blue feathers,which designated their preeminence over everynation. The Siotan princes envying them this distinguished honor and considering themselves as beingat least their equals assumed the liberty to placebunches of Blue feathers upon their caps. This inthe opinion of the Kentucks was an unpardonableoffense if persisted in, and a most daring insult upontheir supreme dignity. A messenger was immediAfter a solemn Council was held with his chiefsBombal, with their unanimous consent dispatched amessenger to Kadocam, who thus proclaimed.Thus saith Bombal, the king of kings and the mostmighty prince on earth. Ye have insulted my ourhonour and dignity, in assuming blue feathers whichwas the badge of our preeminence. Know ye thatuless you tear them from your caps ye shall feel theweight of our ven-gence.Kadocam replied. Tell your master that a greatCompany of Wolves made an attack upon a City, torob the citizens of their dear and elk, and they let forththeir dogs upon them, which attacked them with suchfury, and courage that they fled mangled and torn to amost dreary swamp. Here they by the most tremen-dous the most plaintive howling, they lamented theirsad disaster and disgrace.An answer so shrewd and insulting it was expectedwould soon be followed by an invasion. Measuresmust immediately be taken for the defense of thekingdom. Lobaska was invited to set in council. AllTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." .57were unanimously of opinion that to comply with thehaughty demand of Bombal, by tearing the Bluefeathers from their caps would be degrading thehonour of the nation and a relinquishment of theirnatural right, that they were likewise sensible thatthe most vigorous exertions were necessary to savethe country from ruin. The opinion and advice -ofLobaska was requested. It is my opinion says hethat by using a little stratigem, this war might bebro't to a conclusion, which will be honourable to thiskingdom. We will pursue, says the King youradvice and directions. I shall be happy says Lobaskato assist you with my best advice. Call immediatelyinto the field an army of three Thousand men, provide two thousand shovels five hundred mathooks andfive hundred wheelbarrows, and one hundred axes. Iwill give directions how to make them. Not amoment was lost. The army was assembled, and impli-ments provided with the utmost expidition. and theymarched down the river, to a certain place where theArmy of the Enimy must pass in order to arrive atthe city of Golanga. At this place the hills or mountains came within less than a mile of the river, and aflat or level land intervened. Here Lobaska directedthat a canal should be cut from the River to the Riverto the Hill That it should be eight feet wide and eightdeep and that the dirt which they dug should be throwninto the river. That the canal except what should bewanted to lay over thin pieces of split timber, whichshould be extended over the canal so weak and slenderthat the weight of a man would break them down.This novel invention invention was soon carried into58 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY.1'effect and the work compleatly finished. Every precaution was used to prevent any intelligence of thesetransactions from getting to the enimy.In the meantime Kadokam bro't into the field seventhousand more of his warriors, men of brave hearts andvaliant for the battle. The indignant king of the Ken-tucks had by this time assembled an army of ThirtyThousand men, who were ready at the risk of theirlives to vindicate the preeminence of their nation.and the transendent dignity of their King and his chiefs.Had of this At the head of this army Bombal beganhis march to execute his threatened vengance on theSiotans. As he entered their country he found theviliges deserted, and all the movable property conveyed away, not a man or worn was to be seen untilhe came in view of the army of Kadokam, whowas encamped within a small distance of the Canal.Bombal halted and formed his men in two Ranks,extending from the River to the Hill. He had areserved core, who were placed in the rear of the mainbody, Having thus arranged them for battle he wentfrom one wing to the other, proclaiming alould, wehave been insulted, brave Soldiers, by these cowardly Siotans. They have assumed the blue Featherthe badge of our preeminance and exalted dignity.Behold it flying in their Caps. Will your highbornsouls submit to behold such Dastards place themselves on equal terms with you? No, my valiantwarriors, let us revenge the insult by the destruction of their puny army, and the conflagration of theircity. Make a furious charge upon them and and thevictory is ours. Let your motto be blue Feather andTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 59you will fight like wolves robbed of their puppies.Hadokam had by this time formed his army inorder of Battle close to the edge of the canal andextended them in one rank only from the River tothe Hill. As the Kentucks approached within asmall distance, the Siotans gave back and began aretreat with apparent confusion, notwithstanding thepretended efforts of the King and his officers to prevent their retreating. Bombal, observing this commanded to rush forward on the full run, but to keeptheir ranks in order. This they instantly obeyedas one man, <fc as soon as their feet stept on theslender covering of the canal it gave way and theyfell to the bottom, some in one position and some inanother. A disaster so novel and unexpected mighthave appalled the stoutest and filled their minds withamazement and terror. Nor did this compleat theirmisfortune of the army of Bombal. An ambush of the Siotans, who lay on the side of the hill oppositeto the reserved Corps of the Kentucks, rushed downupon them in an instant. Surprize and terror prevented resistance, they threw down their arms andsurrendered. The retreating army of Hadocamimmediately returned with shouting to the edge of the Canal. Their enimies, who but a moment beforethot themselves invincible and certain of victory, werenow defenceless and wholly in their power. WhenLobaska was present and saw the success of his strati-gem, his great soul disdained revenge on an enimyhelpless and prostrate enimy. He conjured the Siotansnot to shed one drop of Blood, but to be generousand merciful. Bombal had now recovered from his60 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."surprize, and feeling the deplorable situation of hisarmy, his haughty soul felt the keenest anguish.Where says he is the King of the Siotans? Here I amsays Hadokam. What is your re-quest my brother?Reduced says he by stratigem the most ingenious andartful to a situation which subjects us wholly underyour power, and in which you can take ample revenge.I now implore your generosity and compassion for myarmy. Spare their lives and then name your terms, andif I can comply with them without degrading thehonour of my crown it shall be done. Your requestsays Hadokam is granted Surrender your army, and letyou army return in peace. As for your majesty andthe chiefs of your nation who are present, you willgive us the pleasure of your company in our returnto the city of Golanga, there we will execute a treatyof peace and amity, that shall be advantageous and honourable to both nations. These terms were acceptedand the Kentucks returned in peace to their own Country, not to describe exploits and bloody victories, butthe curious stratigem of Lobaska.The two kings and their splendid retinue of princeshaving arived at Golanga, every attention was paidby the Hodokam and his chiefs to their honorablevisitors. Hadokam made a sumptuous entertainmentat which all were present. The next day both partiesmet for for the purpose of agreeing to terms of peaceand perpetual amity. What are your terms says Bom-bal? Lobaska, says Hadokam, shall be our Arbitrator. He shall name the terms his wisdom will dictatenothing which will be dishonourable for either party.THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 61Your proposal, says Bombal is generous. Lobaskashall be our Arbitrator. Lobaska then rose. Attend,says he to my words, ye princes of Siota and Kentuck. tYou have all derived your existence from the greatFather of Spirits, you are his children and belong tohis great family. Why, then have you thirsted foreach others' blood? for the Blood of Brothers?and what has, and what has produced this mighty war?A blue feather, may it please your majesties, a bluefeather a badge of preeminence. It is pride, it isunruled ambition and avarice which devastate theworld and produce rivers of human Blood. and the warswhich take place among nations generally originatefrom as trifling causes as the blue feather.Let this be the first article of your treaty that anyperson may wear a blue feather in his Cap, or anyother feather that he pleases.Let this be the second, that the individuals of eachnation may carry on a commerce with each other, andthat they shall be protected in their persons andproperty.Let thjsjbe the third, that I shall be at liberty toestablish a school or schools in any part of thedominion of Kentuck and furnish them with suchinstructors as I please That none shall be restrainedfrom hearing our instructions and that we shall bepatronized and protected by the King <fc his chiefs.Let\_fhia\_be\_the fourth, that perpetual peace and amityshall remain between both nations and as a pledge forthe fulfilment of these articles on the part of the\*princes of Kentuck, that the eldest son of the King andfJ2 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."four sons of the principal chiefs, shall be left as hos-tiges in this City for the term of Term of Three years.These terms met the cordial approbation of bothparties and were ratified in the most solemn manner.Thus happy was the termination of the war aboutthe blue feather having taken place Lobaska proceeded with indefatigable industry and perseverance inhis benevolent scheme of enlightening and reformingmankind. And how happy would it be for mankindif all wars about as trifling causes as this might terminate in the same way. The benevolent mind ofLoboska soared above trifles viewing all mankind asbrothers and sisters he wished the happiness of all. Hethen made provision in the treaty with the Kentucksfor the introduction of schools in Kentuck amongstthem. This was the first step which he foresaw wouldintroduce improvement in agriculture and the mechanical arts, produce a reformation in their morals andreligious principals, and a happy revolution in somepart of their political institutions.Bombal had become so captivated with Lobaska,that he invited him to bear him company to his owndominions. He consented, and when he had arived atthe royal City of Gamba, which is situate on theRiver Kentuck, he there pursued the same coursewhich he had done at Golanga, and his successanswered his most sanguine expectations. The people were now prepared for the introduction of a school.He returned back to Tolanga, and sent his second sonand three of the most forward scholars of the Siotans toestablish a school at Gamba.THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 63In the meantime his intention was to make somea m endments in the government of Sciota. But asthere were several Cities <fc a great number oTviliagesthat Acknowledged the jurisdiction of the Sciotanking which still were ignorant of the principles <fc doc^trines^ which he taught, he found it necessary to visitthem and to introducejnstructors amongst them. Int ! i i s work he was engaged^ about two years, <fe thehappy effect of his labors were now visible, in variouskinds of improvement &7n the reformation of man-n ers morals and religion. The way was now prepared tointroduce his system^o^gay^nnient.^jThe chiefs of the nation were invited to attend a grand council atTolanga. When th ey were met Lobaska roBe,~andpresented them with the following constitution ofgovernment.The king of Siota shall be stiled the Emperor ofOhion\_&\_the King^f Siota, his crown shall be hereditary injhej)lde8t male heir of his family. The citiesA vilages who acknowledge his jurisdiction or whomay hereafter do it, shall bejmtitled to protectiontV''mJhe^mjperor1\_if ^inyaded\_by an enimy, he shalldefend them with all the force of the Empire. Onceevery year,\_the chief s shall meet at Golan ga~ to nmkel.-iwg for the good of the nation.These young men having imbibed the spirit and principle of their great preceptor, spared no exertions toinstruct the schollars and to diffuse useful knowledgeamongst the people. The happy effects of theirLabors were visible in a short time. The people The64 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."people embraced the religion of Lobaska <fc becamemore industrious and civilized. In their variousimprovements in agriculture, the mechanical artsthey and literature they even exeled the Sciotans, andappeared to be as prosperous and flourishing. EvenBombal himself declared that the termination of thewar about the blue feather, which at first appearedunfortunate, yet as it occationed such happy effectsamong his people, it gave him more satisfaction andpleasure than the reputation of being a great Con-queror. what he could have received from the reputation of being a great Conqueror.CHAP. IX.GOVERNMENT and MONETTHE people who were denominated Ohians were settled on both sides of the River Ohiojrom and along thevarious branches of the river. The settlementsextended to a great distance in the time of Lobaska,but how far it is not mentioned. They lived in comfortable villages or towns except the cities. Wemight except the cities, Golanga on the River Sciotaand Gamba on the which River Kentuck. The variousvilliges or towns formed independent soveranties, andwere governed by their respective chiefs.Excepting the Cities of Golanga and Gamba, whoseKings claimed jurisdiction over an extent of countryof country of about one hundred and fifty miles alongthe River Ohio and about the same extent distance backfrom the River, the remaining part of this extensiveTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 65country was settled in compact vialiges or towns AThese formed independent soveranties A were governed by their respective chiefs. Frequent bickerings contentions and wars took place among thesechiefs, which were often attended with perilous consequences. To remedy these evils and to facilitate andaccomplish the general and benevolent plan, of reforming and civilizing the Ohians, Lobaska had formed asystem of Government, with a design of establishingtwo great Empires one on each side of the RiverOhio. Their different constitutions were on the sameplan and were presented by the hand of Lobaska to therespective Kings of Sciota <fc Kentuck.The Sciotan Constitution was comprised in thesewords.The country east of the great River Ohio shallform the Empire of Sciota. At the head of thisEmpire shall be placed with the title of Emperor,Labamack the oldest son of Lobaska. The officeshall be hereditary in the eldest male of his family.He and his sons successively shall marry natives of the kingdom of Sciota and all their daughters shallmarry within their own dominions. He shall havefour counsellors. He, with the advice of his counsellors, shall have the exclusive right, of making warand peace, <fc of forming treaties with other nations.He shall be the commander in chief of all the forcesof the King and the King of Sciota shall be next to him.All controversies between the rulers or chiefs of thedifferent tribes shall be reffered to the decision of himand his counsellors, and he is authorized to compel acompliance. He shall hold his settings annually in66 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY"four different parts of the Empire. The King ofSciota and the chiefs of the different tribes shall holdtheir offices and exercise the same authority in civilmatters that they have done. They shall be ameni-able to the emperor and his counsellors, whose duty itshall be to inquire into all complaints against themfrom their subjects and to redress grievances and punishfor oppression and injustice by fines. He and his Counsellors shall have the explusive priviledge of coiningmoney. They may likewise lay taxes for the support of the government and for the defence of thenation. They shall coin no more money than whatis necessary for the convenience of the people, and insuch quantity only that the value shall not depreciate. In time of war he shall appoint the officers ofhis army except where the chiefs chuse to commandtheir own subjects. In that case, they shall be subject to the commands of the Emperor. The peoplein every City town or village shall respectively chuseone or more Censors, whose duty it shall be toenquire into all mal-conduct of rulers, and all viciousand improper conduct of the priests and the people and theyshall pursue such measures to obtain justice and toproduce a reformation of morals in the offenders asthe laws shall direct.In order that the priests and instructors of learningmay know and perform their duty for the benefit ofcivilization, morality and religion, Lambon the thirdson of Lobaska shall preside over them and shall havethe title of high Priest, and the office shall be hereditary in the eldest males of his family successively.There shall be associated with him four priests as hisTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 67assistants. They shall exercise a jurisdiction over allthe priests of the Empire, and shall see that they faithfully perform the duties of their office. They shallattend to the instructors of learning and shall directthat a suitable number are provided thro'out theEmpire. It shall likewise be their duty at all suitable times and places to instruct Rulers and people in theduties of their respective Stations, <fc to labour incessantly to persuade mankind to restrain subject theirpassions and appetites under the government of Reason, that they may secure happiness to themselvesin this life and immortal happiness beyond the grave.The people shall make contribution in proportion totheir wealth for the support of their priests. If anyrefuse they shall be denied the priviledge of theirinstructions and shall be subjected to the ridicule andcontempt of the people.For the convenience of the people and the easysupport of the government it is necessary that theregovernment shou should be something which shallrepresent property, and which is of small weight. It istherefore provided that certain small pieces of ironstamped in a peculiar manner shall be this circulating medium. Each piece according to its particular stamp shall have a certain value fixed upon it. Itshall be the peculiar prerogative of the Emperor andhis counsellors to direct the coining of these pieces,which shall be denominated money. No moremoney shall be coined than what will be for thebenefit of the Empire, nor shall the Emperor and hiscounsellors receive any more of it than an adequatecompensation for their services. They shall keep an68 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."account of the amount of money coined annually andthe manner in which it has been distributed andexpended. This account shall be submitted to theexamination of the King of Sciota and the chiefs of theEmpire. The Emperor shall always be ready toreceive the petitions and complaints of his subjects,He shall consult the welfare of his people and savethem from oppression and tyranny and by his beneficentacts shall gain their affections and obtain the appellation of a just, a good and a glorious Prince.When Hadocam King of Sciota had received thisplan of government, he immediately assembled all thechiefs or princes within his kingdom. Lobaskapointed out the defects of the existing governments,and the excellencies of that form which he presentedfor their acceptance. His reasons could not beresisted, they unanimously agreed to establish it astheir constitution of Government. Labamackaccepted the office of Emperor and his four counsellorwere appointed. Lambon was ordained high Priest andhis four assistants chosen. The new government wasnow put in operation. The various tribes living contiguous to the Empire seeing its prosperity, solicitedthe priviledge of being received as parts of theEmpire. Their requests were granted. Improvementand prosperity attended them. This induced other contiguous Tribes to request the same priviledge, <fcothers still adjoining them came forward with theirpetitions. All were granted and the same regulationsestablished in every part. Within about three yearsfrom the first establishment of the Empire, Lobaskahad the pleasure of seeing his son reign over a ter-THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 69ritory of more than four hundred miles in lengthalong the River Ohio, A of beholding a nation rapidlyprogressing from a state of barbarism, ignorance andwretchedness, to a state of civilization 4 prosperity.Having now beheld the happy result of his experiment at Sciota, Lobaska made a second viset toBambo king of Kentuck. The second son whosename was Hamback, was present at the city ofGamba at His youngest son Kalo attended him. Hemade known his plan of revolution to Bambo, whocordially acquiessed <fe called together his princes.They unanimously agreed to place Hamback on thethrone of the Empire south of the Ohio River, and toordain Kalo as their high Priest. With the exception of names and places the constitution of governmentwas the same as that which the Sciotans adopted.The same measures were purpued to insure its success. A great and flourishing Empire arose <fc barbarous tribes connected themselves with the Empire, andunder the fostering care of the government becamewealthy civilized and prosperous.Thus within the term of twelve years from thearival of Lobaska at Golanga, he had the satisfactionof beholding the great and benevolent objects which hehad in view accomplished. He still continued hisuseful Labours and was the great Oriole of bothEmpires. His advice and sentiments were taken uponall important subjects, and no one ventured to controvert his opinions. He lived to behold the successfulexperiment of his institutions, <fc to see them acquirethat strength and firmness as not easily to be overthrown.70 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."Having- acquired that renown and glory which arebeyond the reach of envy, and which aspiring ambitionwould despair of attaining, at the age of eighty hebade an affectionate adieu to two Empires and left themto lament in tears hisjmle exit.These two empires continued to progress in theirimprovements and population, and to rival each other inprosperity during the reign of Ten successive Emperors on the throne of Sciota. Peace and harmony and afriendly intercourse existed between them. No warstook place to disturb their tranquility, except whatarose from the surrounding Savages, who sometimesdisturbed the frontiers in a hostile manner for thesake of gaining plunder. But these attacks weregenerally repelled and defeated, without much loss ofblood. They were in fact of such trifling consequence as to make no perceptible impediment toprevent the population improvement and prosperity ofboth Empires, and happy, thrice happy would it havebeen for them if they had still continued to have pursued the amicable and benevolent principles, which firstmarked the commencement and progress of their institutions.CHAT. X.MILETARY ARRANGEMENTS, AMUSEMENTS, CUSTOMS andEXTENT OP THE EMPIRES.THE customs and amusements of a Nation evince thestate of society which exists among the people.When the two Empires of Sciota and Kentuck hadcommenced their new career on the plan which was> \\*1 vTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY.1' 71formed by Lobaska, they adopted as a true maximthat to avoid wai it was necessary to be in constantpreparation for it. It was the wise policy of of the twogovernments to make such military arrangements asnever to be surpriz^ by any enimy unprepared. Inevery city town and vir'ge the people were required toprovide military impliments, and to deposit them in asecure place. These magazines were to contain asufficient quantity of arms and warlike impliments tofurnish every man who should be able to bear armsshould be destitute. In order that every man mighthave sufficient skill to use them to advantage, greatp;iins was taken to prepare him by teaching him thearts of war.The knowledge of military tackticks as they it wasthen attainable, was likewise difused among the people. Young men from sixteen to twenty five yearsold were required to take the field four times in eachyear. and to spend sixteen days during each time inlearning the military art, <fc in building fortifications.And very able-bodied men were required to spendeight days in each year in the same employments.In consequence of these regulations a rivalshipexisted among the different sexions of the Empire toexceed each other in skill and dexterity in their military manoevers. Hence it was a general custom inevery part of the country for different bodies of mento meet to engage in feigned battles once every year,in order to make a display of their improvements inthe art of war. Premiums were given to those whowere the most expert in shooting the arrow or in72 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."managing the spear and the sword. Their amusementswere generally of the athletick kind, calculated toimprove their agility and strength and prepare them forwarriors. Wrestling, slinging, and throwing stones atmarks, leaping ditches and fences dfc climbing trees andpricipices were some of their most favorite diversions.And as they took great pains to perfect themselvesin these exercises, it would astonish Spectators ofother nations, to observe the improvement they hadmade and the extraordinary feats of agility and strengthwhich they exhibited.Other diversions which had no tendency to fit themfor war they seldom practiced, except when in thecompany of women, being taught by their religionthe social virtues, they manifested a great regard forthe rights of the other sex and always treated them withattention civility and tenderness. Hence, when in thecompany of the fair sex it was curious to observethat when in the company of women they easilyexchanged the warriors ruged AJbold attitude of thebold warrior for the complasant and tender deportment of the affectionate galant. The amusementswhich were pleasing to the female mind were equallypleasing to the men, whenever they held their socialmeeting for recreation. These meetings were frequent among the younger class of Citizens, whethermarried or single. Various kinds of amusementswould frequently be introduced at such times fortheir mutual entertainment, but that which held themost conspicuous place was dancing. But theirmanner of Dancing was different from that of thepolished Europians. Gracefulness and easy attitudeTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 73were not so much studied in their movements assprightliness and agility, and those tunes which admittedthe greatest display of activity and sprightliness weregenerally the most pleasing fashionable. Hencethose whose bodies were formed for the quickestmovements if they keept time with the music, werethe most admired. In small assemblies it was fashionable to amuse themselves with at playing withpieces of parchment. This they denominate theBird Play. Each peice o\_f is of an oval form A ofconvenient length and width and on each one is portraidthe likeness of a Bird. All the birds of Prey thatcame within their knowledge have the honour ofbeing represented on these peices of Parchment. Onthe other pieces are portraid other birds of differentkinds The whole number of the peices amount toabout sixty. These are promiscuous placed in a packand dealt of to the company of players whose numberdoes not exceed six. The person then, who has thegreatest number of carnivorous Birds by a dextrousmanagement, may catch the greatest number of theother Birds and thus obtain the victory.During these enterviews of the different sexes <fceven in their common intercouse with each other theyare always very cheerful and sociable <fc often displaythat fondness and familiarity, which in Europe wouldbe considered as indicative of a lascivious character,but in this country are considered as what good manners requird^ Nothing rude nothing indecent orimmodest according to their ideas of the meaning ofthese terms, are admissible in company, <fc absolute74 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY.1'lasciviousness would meet the most severe reprehension. When a young man wishes to settle himself ina family state he proclaims it by wearing a red featherin his cap. This is considered as an admonition tothe young women who would not receive him for ahusband, to avoid his company, whereas those whoseinclinations towards him are more favourable admithis attentions. From this number he selects one asthe object of his addresses. He obtains an enterviewand proposes a courtship. If the proposition accordswith her wishes, they then agree on a time when heshall make known the affair to her parents, whoseapprobation being obtained, he is then permited toviset her ten times in sixty days. At the expirationof this time the bargain for matrimony must be finished. Otherwise there must be a final terminationof the courtshi or a postponement of the courtship,for the term of one year, or else a The parties are atliberty during the postponement to But if the partiesare pleased with each other, the contract is made andthe time for the celebra performance of the nuptialceremonies is appointed. An entertainment is provided made friends are invited and the Bridegroom andthe Bride present themselves in their best apparel.The company form a circle and they take their stand inthe centre. The father of the Bride speaks. Forwhat purpose do you present yourselves Theyanswer, to join hands in wedlock. Our hearts arealready joined, and we have made a solemn contractcovenant to be true and faithful to each other. Thecompany then all explain. "Blessings will attendTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 75you if ye fulfil, but Curses if ye transgress. Theyare then conducted jinto a log, round which a Rope istied. The Bride groom takes hold of one end of therope and the Bride the other, <fc being commanded todraw the log into the house. They pull in oppositedirections with all their might. Having worriedthemselves for some time to no purpose to the greatdiversion of the company, the parents of both partiesstep forward and giving them a severe reprimand, command them to draw in the same direction. Theyinstantly obey and the Log is easily drawn to its destined place. The rest of the time is spent in greatcheerfulness, and meriment. They partake of theentertainment and conclude with customary amusements. The Bridegroom and Bride are now desirous toform a family by themselves. If their parents are ofsufficient ability they furnish them with a convenienthouse and such furniture as will be required for familyuse and such other property as they^will need to enablethem to obtain a comfortable living. But if theirparents are poor they receive a pittance and contributions from relations and neighbours, db are placed in sucha situation that with proper industry and econimy theycan live live above indigence <fe enjoy life agreeably.At the time they enter their new habitation they areattended by Priests <fc by their relation and friends.They kneel in the centre of the Room <fc the Priestplaces his right hand on the head of the Bridegroomand his left on the head of the Bride. After explainingand enjoining in the most solemn manner the variousduties of the married state, he concludes his injunctions with these words. "My Dear children, I con-76 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."jure you as you regard your own peace <fe felicity, asyou would wish to acquire wealth <fe reapectibility\_\_Aset an example worthy of emitation, that as you arenow yoked together to draw in the same direction.They then rise and he presents each with a piece ofParchment on which is written Draw in the samedirection All the duties of the conjugal state intheir opinion are comprized in this injunction Command.As the Priests <fe the Censors were vigilent and care-f ul to required to see that parents restrained thevices of their children and instructed them in theknowledge of their religious principles the effectswere very conspicuous.Having been early taught to restrain the governtheir passions and to regard the practice of virtue astheir greatest good, it was generally the case thatlove friendship and harmony existed in families. andwhen parents were treated by their children withgreat tenderness and respectParents manifested an anxious solicitude for thefuture welfare and respectibility of their children, and intheir turn children treated their parents with respectand reverence. Nor did they forsake them in old age,but paid provided liberally for their support &^But we are not to suppose that in the most virtuous age of the nation all were virtuous. Far fromthis. But with such punctual exactness were thelaws executed, in the most prosperous state of thenation, that vice and impiety had but few advocates andTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 77the wicked were ashamed of their own characters.Tho' every vice was prohibited by law, yet the penalties were not severe. Murder alone was punishedwith death. With respect to other Laws, they were calculated to wound the pride and ambition of the transgressor, <fc produce shame <fc regret. Adultery was-is punished by obliging the Culprit to wear a pair ofElk horns on his shoulders six days, and to walk thro\*the City or vilage once each day, at which timesthe boys are at liberty to pelt him with rotten eggs.The thief is compelled to make ample restitution.For the third offense he is covered with tar and feathers and exhibited as a specticle for laughter and ridicule.Pugilists or boxers, if they are equally to blame forfighting, are yoked together at least one day, and inthis situation are presented to the view of the multitude. They must wear the yoke until the quarrelis settled. Such being the nature of their penallaws and such the punctuality of executing the penalties on offenders that crimes were far less frequent inthis country than in Europe, where the Laws aremore severe, and offenders more often escape punishment. Tho' learning civilization and refinement hadnot arrived at that state of perfection, in which theyexist in a great part of the Roman Empire, yet thetwo Empires of Sciota and Kentuck during their longperiod of peace and prosperity, were not less happy Asluxury and extravagance were scarcely known toexist especially among the common people, anhappy equality was hence there was a great similarity in their manner of living, their dress, theirhabits and manners. Pride was not bloated and puffed78 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."up with enormous wealth. Nor had envy fewel toinflame her hatred and malice. As the two Empireswere not displeased with each others prosperity andhappiness and the two governments had no thirst norjealous of nor jealous of each others power, and as thegovernments were not infested with a thirst for conquest, Peace of consequence waved her olive branch,and the malignant passions lay dormant. Avarice andcorruption did not contaminate the ruling powers norbribery infest the seats of justice. The people feltsecure in the enjoyment of their rights, and desirousto raise up families to partake of the same blessingswhich they enjoyedWe can now trace the causes of their increase andprosperity. To a religion which presented powerfulmotives to restrain vice and impiety, and encourage virtue. To the difusion of a competent share of learning and knowledge to enable the people to understandtheir right and enjoy the pleasures of social intercourse.To the establishment of political institutions, whichgagrded property and life against oppressing injustice andtyranny.. To the knowledge which the peopleobtained of agriculture and the mechanical arts and theirhabits of industry and econimy. To the mild natureof their laws and the certainty of executing the penaltyupon transgressors, and to such an equality of propertyas to prevent the pride of wealth and the extravaganceof Luxury. To such causes may be ascribed therapid encrease of population, and the apparent contentment and felicity which extended thro' every part of the country of the Empires. We might add like wisethe long peace that continued and the friendly inter-THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 79course that existed between the two rival Empires.A peace which had no interruption for the term ofnear five hundred years. During this time their villages and cities were greatly enlarged, new settlementswere formed in every part of the country which hadnot been inhabited, and towns a vast number of townswere built, which rivaled as to number of inhabitants,those which existed at the time their imperial governments were founded. Their settlements extended thewhole length of the great River Ohio to its confluencewith the Mississippi, <fc over the whole country onboth sides of the Ohio River, which are watered bystreams which empty into it. And also along thegreat lakes of Eri and Mishigan, and even some settlements were formed in some parts of the countrywhich borders on Lake Ontarion. Such was the vastextent of the country which they inhabited, and suchthe fertility of the soil, that many milions were easilyfed and supported with such a plenty, and competence ofprovision as was necessary for their comfort and happiness.During the time of their rising greatness and tranquillity, their policy led them to fortify the country inevery part, the interior as well as the frontiers. Thisthey did partly for their own safety, provided a warshould take place, and they should be invaded by anenimy, and partly to keep alive a military and improve awarlike spirit, and the knowledge of military tackticks.Near every vilage or City they constructed forts orfortifications These were generally of an oval form andof different dimentions according to the number ofinhabitants who lived in the town. The Ramparts or80 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."walls were formed of dirt which was taken in front of the fort. A deep canal or trench would likewise beformed. This would still increase the dificulty ofsurmounting the walls in front In addition to thisthey inserted sticks pieces of Timber on the top of the Ramparts. These peices were about seven feetin length from the ground to top, which was sharp-ned. The distance between each piece was aboutsix inches, thro' which they would shoot their arrowsagainst an Enimy. Some of their fortifications havetwo Ramparts which run paralel with each other,built in the same manner with a distance between ofabout two or three perches. Their gates are strongand well constructed for defense. Within these fortsare likewise a number of small houses, for the accommodation of the army and inhabitants, in case of aninvasion <fc likewise a storehouse for the reception ofprovisions and arms. A country thus fortified, containing so many milions of inhabitants hearty androbust and with habits formed for war, might well besupposed as able to defend themselvs against aninvading enimy. If they were beat from the frontier,they would still retreat back to the fortifications inthe interior and there make a successful stand. Butwhat avails all the wisdom, the art and the works ofmen, what avails their valour their strength and numbers, when the Almighty God is provoked to chastisethem, and to execute his vengeance in their overthrowand destruction.THE "MANUSCRIPT(CHAT. XI.As the Sciotans and the Kentuoks had maintainedwith eaoh other an unterrupted peace and friendlyintercourse for the space of four hundred and eightyyears, it seems almost incredible that a Cause whichwas of no great importance to either nation, shouldexcite their resentment against each other and produceall the horrors of war. But such was the unhappyeffect of an affair, which had no regard to a singleperson except the imperial families Gi the two empiresand the king of Sciota. As the families had weredessended from the great Lobaska, they had duringthe reign of all their Emperors been in the habit ofvisiting each other, but as each Emperor and his children were required not to marry out of their respective dominions, no intermariages had taken place.They however claimed relationship, and still continuedto each other the appelation of our dearest and bestbeloved Cousen.A Cousen of this description, who was the eldestson of Hamboon, the Emperor of Kentuck arrived atthe City of Golanga with a small but splendid retinueof Friends. At that time Rambock, who was thefourteenth Emperor, was seting on the throne ofSciota. He received the young Prince with apparentsensation of the highest pleasure, and spared no painsto manifest towards him by his treatment the greatestesteem and friendship. The Emperor had an only son82 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."whose name was Moonrod. He ordered him to attendthe young prince and to treat him with every token ofaffection and honour. They spent their time in receiving visets from the officers of the government, inviewing curiosities, and in the assemblies of the firstClass of young citizens who met for recreation.Elseon, for this was the name of the young prince,was soon after his arival introduced to Lamesa, theeldest daughter of the Emperor. She was a youngLady of a very fair and beautiful countenance. Herfeatures and the construction of her person were formedto please the fancy, whilst the ease and gracefulness andmodesty of her deportment, were very pleasing to allher acquaintance. Her mind was replenished withthe principles of knowledge and virtue and such was hervivacity and the ease with which she expressed herideas, that all were delighted with her conversation.No wonder that this fair imperial dansel attracted theattention of Elsion, and at their first enterview enkindleda spark in his boosom, which he could hardly preventfrom being discovered thro his blushing counta-nance, and the embarassment he felt in conversation.He strove to erase those tender impressions whichshe had made on his heart, but in vain; everyrenewed enterview only served only to fix her imagedeeper in his mind with and to make the flame of Lovemore difficult to extinguish. He reasoned on theobsticles in the way of obtaining this young lady forhis partner, but instead of cooling only ser it onlyincreased the ardor of his passion, and produced aresolution that with the consent of Lamesa, nothingshould prevent the attainment of his wishes.THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 83To a mind thus ardent which possessed the nativecourage, resolution and perseverance of Elseo, the mostgigantic obsticles would vanish into vapour. Norwas it long before he found that a correspondent passion was excited in her breast. The moment she firstsaw him, her heart palpitated, her face was coveredwith crimson, she turned her eyes and attempted tospeak, her tongue stopt its motion in the midle of aperiod. She .named, sat down and observed that shewas not well. A description of this scene is paintedby a Sciotan bard in poetic numbers. He representsthe young Lady as recovering in a short time from thisstate of agitation <fc confusion, and as being afterwardscomposed and having a better command of her passions. To follow the poet in the description which hegives of Elseon, to whom he attaches a countenanceand figure superior to other mortals, and qualities whichproduced the universal esteem and admiration, wouldnot comport with the faithful page of history. Suffice it to say that Lamesa was captivated with hisperson, and was impressed with those ideas <fc sentiments that her happiness fled except when she eitherenjoyed or anticipated his company. After Elsionhad firmly determined to marry Lamesa, he wasimpatient for a private enterview with her to disclosehis sentiments. This occured in a short time. Theywere together in one of the apartments of the Emperors palace, the company had all retired. I have, saidhe in a low voice to Lamesa, conceived that opinionof you that I hope you will not be displeased if Iexpress my feelings with frankness and sincerity.You must, she replied, be the best judge of what it is84 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."proper for you to express. I am always pleased withsincerity. As the sun, says he, my dear Lamesa,when he rises with his radiant beams, dispels thedarkness of knight, so it is in your power to dispelthe clouds of anxiety that rest upon my soul. TheCrown of Kentuck will be like a Rock on my head,unless you will condesend to share with me the gloryand felicity of my reign. Will you consent to be mydearest friend and companion for life? There isnothing, she replies, would give me more pleasurethan a compliance with your request, provided itshall meet the approbation of my Father. Buthow can he consent, when our Constitution requiresthat his daughters should marry in his own dominions? Beside, my father intends that I shall receivethe King of Sciota for my husband. By perform -ming, says he, the oerimonies of maraige at Talanga,we shall literally comply with the imperial constitution, as Talanga is within the dominions of yourFather. But as for the King of Sciota, do you sincerely wish to have him for a husband? No, shequickly replies, speaks anger sparkled in her eyes.No. the King of Sciota for my husband. His pride,his haughtiness, the pomposity of all his movementsexcite my perfect disgust. I should as leave beyoked to a porcupine. SeveralThese Lovers, as you may well conjecture, saidmany things too tender and endearing to please thetaste of the common Class of Lovers. In this enter-view which lasted about four hours, they exchangedthe most transporting expression of love, made themost solemn protests vows of sincerity and perpetualTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 86friendship and finally agreed that Elseon should makeknown to the Emperor their mutual desire to be joinedin wedlock. The next day he wrote to the Emperoras follows.May it please your most excellent Majesty. Permit me to express my most sincere gratitude for thehigh favors and honour, which thro' the beneficence ofof your Majesty I have enjoyed in your dominions.I am likewise impelled to request a favour, which tome would be the most precious gift, that is in thepower of your Majesty to bestow. Having contractedan acquaintance with your most amiable daughterLamesa, and finding that a correspondent affection Aesteem exist in our hearts toward each other A amutual desire to be united by the solemn covenant ofmaraige, I would therefore solicit your Majesty's permission that such a connection be formed.Such a connection I conceive, may in its effect bevery salutary and beneficial to bothe Empires. It willunite the two imperial families in a nearer in the bondof consanguinity, A fix upon them an additional obligation to cultivate friendship, peace and an amiableintercourse. It will strengthen the sinues of bothgovernments and promote and promote an happy interchange of friendly offices. As to the objection thatmight arise from the constitution requiring, that theEmperors daughters should marry in his own dominions, this according to its literal meaning can haverespect only to the place where the Emperorsdaughter shall marry. If by your Majestys permission, I should marry your daughter Lamesa in yourdominions it will be a literal fulfillment of the oonsti-88 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY.'1tution. From this ground therefore, I conceive thatno objection of any weight can arise. Will yourmajesty please to vouchsafe me an answer to myrequest.Signed. ELSEON. PRINCE OF KENTUOK.This letter was presented to the Emperor byHelicon, an intimate friend of Elseon. The Emperorread it assumed the aspect of deep consideration,walked the room a few moments, then took a seatand told Helicon that he might inform the youngprince that he should receive an answer in a tendays.But why this few Ten days, a long time for twoardent lovers to remain in suspense. But the Emperor must consult his counsellors, his priests and thelast and most fatal counsellor of all the King of Sciota,who presumed to claim the hand of the fair Lamesa.The affair became public. The popular sintiment atfirst favoured the connection. The Emperors counsellors and his priests were at first inclined to recommend an affirmative answer. But the interest of theSciotan King soon prevailed. This produced a different view of the subject The Counsellors perceivedthat such a connection would be a most flagrantviolation of the true meaning and spirit of the constitution, and the priests considered that it would be an actof the greatest impiety, as it transgress an explicitinjunction of the great founder of their governmentand religion. This opinion had vast Weight on theminds of a great majority of the people. The moreliberal sort vindicated the cause of Elseon. ThisTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 87produced a great debate altercation A confusion thro\*the City. All were anxious to know the Emperoradecision.On the tenth day the Emperor transmitted to theprince the following answer to his letter.To our best beloved Cousen Elseon Prince of Ken-tuck. The letter we received from your highness hasimpressed our hearts with a deep sense of the honorand benefit, which you intended uor family and Empire.At first we were inclined to accept of the alliance youproposed. But having examined <fe considered thesubject with great seriousness and attention, we thatfind that to admit your Highness who is not a citizenof our Empire to marry into our family, would be amost flagrant violation of the true meaning <fe spiritof our constitution. and an impious outrage on thesacred memory of its Founder For these reasons wemust solicit your Highness not to insist on our compliance with your request.Signed. HAMBOCK, EMPEROR OF SCIOTA.As Elseon had been informed of the complexionwhich his affairs had assumed in the court, and thro'the City, he was prepared for the alswer which hereceived.Without manifesting the least chagrin or Resentment, he appeared to acquiesse in the decision of theEmperor. He displayed his in his countenance, hisconversation <fc deportment, his usual cheerfulnessand vivacity. He continued his amusements and associated with company with the same ease, gracefulnessand dignified conduct which he had done before. At88 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."the same time, his determination was fixed to transport the fair Lamesa into his fathers dominions. Thefirst enterview he had with her after he received theEmperors letter, he informed her of its contents. Shetrembled, paleness began to cover her face, and hadnot Elseon received her into his arms, perhaps shewould have falen from her seat However, by a fewsoothing words and caresses, she was restored to herformer composure and recollection. Believe me, quothhe, my Dearest Lamesa, you shall be mine. Thisheart shall be torn from my bosom, and these limbsfrom my body, nothing else shall prevent our unionand compleat enjoyment of happiness. Can the ancientscribbling of a great sage or the degree of an Emperor prevent the streams from uniting with the ocean?With the same ease and propriety can they prevent theunion of our hands, since our hearts are united.With your consent, you shall be mine. Is it possible,she replies, is it possible to disregard the authorityof an indulgent and beloved parent and disobey his command. This I never did. What if he should command you, says Elseao, to marry the King of Sciota?would you obey? He might, she replies, with moreregard to my happiness, command me to plunge adagger into my heart. I cannot endure that supercilious bundle of pride and affectation.At this moment her maid entered the room andgave her a letter. I received this letter, she says,from your Brother, who told me it was from theEmperor. She opened it and read.My Dearest and best beloved Daughter.Having the most tender and affectionateTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 89regard for your future welfare A felicity, we haveconcluded a treaty of marriage between you <fcLambul the King of Sciota. This alliance will behonourable to our family and be productive of manybenefits to the Empire. On the tenth day from thistime the nuptial ceremonies will be celebrated, consummated in our Palace. You will be in readiness andyield a cheerful compliance with our will.Signed. BAMBOCK. EM'R OP SCIOTA.Had the lightning flashed from the clouds and piercedher heart, it could not have produced a more instantaneous effect. She fell into the arms of Elseon, themaid ran for a cordial. Elseon rubed her templesand hands and loosened the girdle about her waist.Within about an hour her blood began to circulate.Elseon to his inexpressible joy felt her pulse beginto beat, and perceived flashes of colour in her face.With a plaintive groon, she once more opened hereyes to the beams of day, and in a kind of wild distraction exclaimed, Ah cruel, cruel Father, why haveyou doomed your daughter to a situation the mostodious and disgustful. As well might you have thrownher into a den of porcupines, opossums A serpents.With such animals I could enjoy life with less disgust<fc torment, than with this mighty King of Sciota, andAn alliance with him an honour to our family, anhonour to the descendants of the great Lobaska!What wicked counsellors have deceived my Father, andinduced him to throw me into the arms of this hatefulmonster? Ah, whither shall I fly and escape my bar-berous destiny. I am your protector, says Elseon. |am your friend and will conduct you beyond the loving90 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."and gigantic grasp of Sambol. His loathsome armsshall never encircle my dear Lamesa. Consent tomy request and we will be within ten days at the Cityof Gamba. There you will be esteemed as thebrightest Orniment of my Fathers Empire. Nolonger Oh Elseon, she exclaimed, can I refuse myconsent to your proposal. When a compliance withmy fathers commands will entail wretchedness andmisery thro' life. Heaven will pardon my disobedience. Yes, Elseo, I will go with you, and place myhappiness in your power, rather than fall into thehands of this haughty Sambul.What could she say more to excite the feelings of aheartTstruggling under the operation of different passions &^pposite^motives. She has taken her resolution, love has gained the preeminence over everyobsticleAt this resolution, Elseon was transported with joy.He now proceedejMx) form his plans for their flight.On the fourth day after, he called upon the Emperorand requested his permission to depart to his ownCountry^ The Emperor importuned him to tarry and beone of the guests at Lamesas wedding. But hedeclined ^by urging as his apology the anxiety andimpatience of his father for his return. Permissionwas granted, and the Emperor aded that he should dohimself the honour to furnish the prince with anescort when he left the city. Elseon replied that ashe was not fond of much parade, he would wish thatthe escort might not consist of the Emperors soldiers,THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 91only his friend <fe his daughter A with with each ofthem a friend. These says he, are my dearest <fe bestbeloved cousens, for whom I shall ever retain themost sincere friendship. Nothing can afford memore pleasure, says the Emperor, than to complywith your request.Elseon took an affectionate leave of the EmperorA on the second day after, being prepared for hisjourney he set off with his three friends <t their eerv-ants. Moonrod, prince of the Empire, and Lamesawith her two sisters, with each of them a friend,attended them on his journey about twenty miles.They all tarried at a vilage over night.Imagination alone can paint the pleasant <fe happyscene. Elseon was transported with joy. He presther to his bosom with all the ardor of inthusiasm, <fcshe yielded to all his tender and innocent embraceswith a grateful sensibility and modest resignition.The invention and ingenuity of Elseon must nowbe employed in forming a plan for their flight to hisFathers dominions. As he appeared to acquiesse inthe decision of the Emperor, and had maintained thesame cheerful deportment, none were suspicious ofhis design. The Emperor and the whole court stillmanifested toward him every token of high respect andsincere friendship. Without any hesitation, theEmperor complied with his request that his dearcousins, the son and the three daughters of theEmperor, with each of them a friend, should accompany him about twenty miles on his return to Ken-tuck. The retinue of the young Prince consisted of92 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."four of his most intimate friends and their servants.He took care to send their baggage on by two servants one day before they set out. The morningarived, the sun shone with radiant splendor, not acloud intervened or was seen to float in the atmosphere. It was the fourth day after Lamesa hadreceived the letters which doomed her to the embracesof Sambul. The Emperor, his Counsellors, his Priestsand principal officers assembled, and having invited theyoung prince and his friends to meet them, theyentered the circle with great ceremony. The Emperor then addressed the Young Prince, thankedhim for the honour of his viset and expressed his firmdetermination, to maintain a sincere friendship and aninviolable peace with the government of Kentuck.Elseon replied that the whole sentiments would meetthe cordial approbation of his Father, who retainedthe same sentiments of friendship and peace towardthe government of Sciota. He then thanked theEmperor and the whole assembly for the high respectthey had shown him. This was done with that frankness and apparent sincerity that the whole assemblywere highly pleased. The Emperor then embracedhim and gave him his blessing. Customary ceremonieswere mutually exchanged by the whole company, andeven tears were seen to drop from every eye.As the whole of this parade indicates no flight ofElseon and Lamesa, we must now view them with theirselect company of friends setting out on a shortjourney. All mounted on horses, they rode abouttwenty miles to a village where they halted. An eli-gant supper was provided, they were chearful andTUB "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 93sociable, none appeared more so, that Elseon andLamesa. The next day Elsean requested the company of his dear cousens a short distance on hisjourney. When they had rode about two miles theyhalted and proposed to take their leave of each otherLamesa and her friend, without being perceived by thecompany rode on. It was a place where the roadturned, and by riding one rod, they could not be seen.The rest of the company entered into a short conversation and passed invitation for reciprocal visets <fcfriendly offices. They then clasped each othershands and bowing very low, took an affectionate farewell. But where are Lamesa and her friend? Duringthese ceremonies their horses move with uncommonswiftness, her heart palpitates with an apprehensionthat she might be overtaken by her brother. Butnow a friend more dear, her beloved Elseon, with hiscompanions, outstrip the wind in their speed. andwithin one hour and half they overtake these fearfulDamsels. They all precipitate their course, castingtheir eyes back every moment to no purpose, herpursuers. But pursuers had not sufficient time toovertake them. They safeijTarive on~the Bank of the Great River. Elseon and Lamesa were the firstthat entered the boat, the rest follow. and such wasKlseons engagedness and anxiety to secure his fairprize, that he even seized an oar and used it withgreat strength and dexterity. As their feet stept on theopposite shore, Elseon claspt his hands <fc spokealoud, Lamesa is mine. She is now beyond the graspof a pompous tyrant, and the control of a father whosemind is blinded by the sordid advice of a menial94 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."junto of counsellors and priests. She is mine and shallsoon be the Princess of Kentuck. Their movement isno slow thro' the remaining part of their journey.They at length arive at the great City of Gamba.We may now contemplate them as having new scenesto pass thro\* Not to delineate the parade which wasmade at the court of Hamboon, for the reception ofhis son, Lamesa, and their friends, or to describe thejoy that was exhibited in every part of the city ontheir arival, and the universal surprise occasioned bythe story of the flight of these two Lovers. Suffice itto say, that those who beheld Lamesa did not blameElseon.As Hamboon was not very punctilious in his regardfor the constitution, being possessed of very liberalsentiments, Elseon found no difficulty in obtaininghis consent to marry Lamesa. On the fourth dayafter their arival, Elseon and Lamesa, with each ofthem a friend appeared on a stage, which was erectedon the public square of the City. The Emperor andEmpress with his counsellors, his Priests his officers,and all his relations, with the -principal Ladies of theCity, formed a procession and surrounded the stage.The common Citizens being a great multitude, tooktheir stands as they pleased. The Emperor andEmpress then mounted the stage, and united Elseon andLamesa in the bond of wedlock according to custom.and as pulling the Log was an indespensible ceremonyone was provided with a rope around it on the stage.The Bridegroom and Bride played their parts in pullingthe rope with such dexterity and gracefulness, that thewhole assembly was most pleasingly entertained.THE ''MANUSCRIPT STORY." 95When all was ended, the whole assembly clapetf theirhands and cried, Long live Elseon and Lamesa. and giving three huzzas, the common citizens dispersed.The rest repaired to a sumptuous entertainment, andspent the remaining part of the day and evening inconversation, singing and recreation.CHAP XII.THE reader will recollect that Elseon A his friendsleft Moonrod and his friends in a very pleasant moodwithout the least suspicion, that Lamesa and her friendhad deserted them. When they had arrived at thevilage, what was their surprise when they found thatLamesa and her friend were not in the company, norhad any one any recollection of her being in company, after they had stopped to take their leave ofElseon. Moonrod and the other gentlemen immediatelyrode back with the greatest speed to the place wherethey had halted, <fc not finding any traces of herLamesa the conclusion was then certain that she hadprefered the company of the young Prince and was onher \vay to Kentuck.Pursuit would be in vain. Their only alternativewas to hasten back to carry the doleful intelligenceto the Emperor. Their speed was nearly equal tothat of Elseon. Without waiting to perform the customary ceremony of entering the palace, Moonrodimmediately rushed into the Emperors presence, andexclaimed, your daughter Lamesa has been seducedby Elseon to leave our company unperceived, and hasgone with him to Kentuck. Nothing but the pencil96 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."of the Limner, could paint the Astonishment of theEmperor. He rose, stood motionless for a moment,then staring fiercely on Moonrod he spoke, is it possible, is it possible, are you not mistaken my Son. Iam not, says he, my most excellent Father. I amnot mistaken. This morning we attended Elseon asmall distance from the village where we lodged.When we had halted to take our leave and our attentionwas all engaged she and her friend she and her friendrode off unperceived by any of our company nor didwe miss her until we arived again at the vilage. Wehave made full search and enquiry, and find that she hasabsolutely gone with the young prince to Kentuck.What an ingrate says the Emperor, what a monsterof hipocrisy Did the honourable attention we haveshown him demand such treatment? How has heinsulted the dignity of our family and outraged thehigh authority of our government. This affair willdemand the most serious consideration. O Lamesa,Lamesa, my darling my best beloved child, was itpossible for you to be so deceived by that artfulprince, was it possible for you to disobey the command of your indulgent father? as they stept on thecovering top of the canal, the thin pieces of timberbroke and they all plunged in and found themselves in aninstant at the bottom of the canal. Surprised and ter-rified and tliey soon found themselves in no situation tovindicate their exclusive right to wear blue feathersin their caps. They were compleatly in the power oftheir enimies who returned quick upon them Theydemanded quarter and surrendered themselves pris-THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 97oners of war. And giving up their arms, theirdemand was granted. In the meantime a party ofSoiotans who lay in ambuah, on the side of the Hillrushed down upon the reserved corps of the Ken-tucks, who being filled with consternation at thedireful disaster of their companions, surrenderedthemselvs prisoners of war without a struggle.Thus in a few moments, by pursuing the stratigem orplan of Lobaska, An army of thirty Thousand menwere captured, <fe the pride and haughtiness of a mightyPrince was humbled. Not a drop of blood was shedto accomplish the whole.and bring upon our family such wretchedness <fc dishonour. Fame with Her Thousand tongues commencedher pleasing employment, and as swift as the wings ofTime she wafted the inteligence thro' the City withmany distorted and exaggerated particulars. All wasastonishment confusion and uproar. Resentmentenkindled her indignant sparks into a flame and thegeneral cry was revenge and war. The Sciotan Kingwas walking in his parlour, feeding his imaginationwith the pleasing prospect of his. future glory andfelicity. I am, quoth he to himself, honoured aboveall the other princes of the Empire, <fc even abovethe heair apparent to the imperial crown of Kentuck.Who could be admitted except myself to marry thisfair Lamesa, the eldest daughter of the Emperor, themost amiable the most accomplished and the most honorable Lady in the universe. This is a distinctionwhich will place me on equal ground with the98 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."Emperor himself, and command from all my subjectsthe homage of their highest respect and reverence.Besides I have a soul that can relish the charms of the beautiful maid. She will adore me as her Lord andthink herself highly honoured and exceeding happy tosubmit to my most endearing and affectionateembraces. But ah, mighty Sambul, you littletho't how soon this delightful prospect would bereversed, and that your soul would be filled withchagrin indignation and revenge. A messenger burstinto his parlour and announced the astonishing tidingsof Lamesas elopement. She had absolutely gone,says he, to become the wife of Elseon, and the empressof Kentuck. Not the wondrous and instantaneousroar of ten Thousand thunders instantaneouslythro\* the atmosphere, could have produced greatersurprise. His countanance was all amazement It wasfor a moment covered with paleness, his lips quivered, his knees smote together and his gigantic bodytrembled like the shaking of a tower under the effectsof an earthquake. But soon after a little silent hisreflections and cogitations caused the blood to returnwith a ten -fold velocity into his face, it assumed thecolour of redness and clinching He assumed the attitude of terrific majesty and poured forth his feelings ina voice more terrible than the roaring of a volcano.How have I been abused, dishonoured, insulted andoutraged. How have my prospects of glory beeninstantaneously blasted and my character, my characterbecome the ridicule of a laughing world. Whatfelicities of enjoying the imperial maid in my arms,THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY.'1 99adoring me for her husband are now vanished. A bywhom am I thus disgraced insulted and injured? Bythe mock prince of Kentuck, an effeminate stripling,a cringing and plausible Upstart. He has robed meof the fairest orniment of my kingdom, sjhe Lamesa,who was mine by solemn contract, and must he nowrevel in her charms which are mine, and pride himselfin those deceitful arts by which he has seduced her,and stolen her from my enjoyment? No, ungrateful andinsidious monster, your triumph shall be of shortduration, and this arm shall viset your crimes uponyour head with a ten -fold vengence. Having pouredforth a torrent of the most dreadful imprecations andmenaces, he left his parlour and walked forth to consulthis principal officers on the best plan to obtainrevenge.In the meantime the Emperor, less haughty andindignant, and possessed of sentiments more humaneand benelent, sent an invitation to his Counsellors toattend him. They were unanimous in the opinionthat the offense of Elseon required reparation. Butshould war be the consequence, if he refused toreturn Lamesa? On this question, two of the counsellors contended that an humble recantation wouldrepair the injury done to the honour of the imperialfamily, and the authority of the government. Theother two insisted that they should demand in addi-tion that would not be sufficient But that they shoulddemand in addition ten Mammouth which would bean adequate compensation, but they all depreciatedthe horrors of war. In the midst of their debeteawhich were managed with great coolness and imparti-100 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."ality, Sambul presented himself. I have come forwardsays he, may it please your most excellent majesty,to demand the fulfillment of that solemn contract,which you made to deliver me your eldest daughterin marriage. She has been surreptitiously carriedoff by the young prince of Kentuck. She is mine bycontract and your majesty is bound to deliver her to me.I demand Let her be immediately demanded, and if theEmperor the father of the young prince shall refuseto return her, this will implicate him in the same crimeand be a sufficient cause of war. In that case war willbe indespensible to vindicate the honour of ourrespective crowns, and the rights of the Empire. Ishould then give my voice for war, and would thennever sheathe my sword until the torrents of bloodhad made expiation for the ingratitude baseness andperfidy of the young Princy. An humble recantation or the delivery of ten mammouth, would this bea sufficient reparation for such an offense so flagitious? No, the very proposal would be an insult onthe dignity of our government. Can anything shortof the repossession of the fair object stolen, of theinvaluable prize felonously taken from us, be anadequate compensation? Nothing short of this canheal our bleeding honour, appease the indignationof our subjects, and reinstate friendship and and an amicable intercouse, between both Empires. Let this beyour demand that Lamesa shall be returned. Let arefusal be followed by an immediate declaration ofwar, Let the resources and energies of the nation becalled forth. Assemble your armies and pour destruction upon all who shall oppose the execution of ourTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY.'1 101revenge. I myself will lead the van A mingle my armwith those who fight the most bloody battles. . Heroesshall fall before us, their towns shall be laid in ruins,and carnage shall glut our indignant Swords.When further deliberation had taken place, theEmperor and two of his counsellors adopted the adviceof Sambul to demand Lamesa <fc an envoy wasimmediately "dispatched to the Emperor of Kentuckwith the following Letter.May it please your most gracious majesty. Nothing could have given us more pleasure than the disposition you manifested in sending Elseon, the heirapparent to your crown to viset our family. Wetreated him as our dearest Cousen <fc as our mostintimate friend. He was invited to associate with ourchildren, <fc to consider himself whilst he tarried as amember of our family. Such being the confidencewe placed in his rectitude and honour, that he assumedthe liberty to contract the most intimate acquaintance with Lamesa, our eldest daughter. This produced an agreement between them, that with ourconsent they would be united in marriage. Nothingcould have been more pleasing than such a connection. But we found that it would be a most flagrantviolation of the true meaning and spirit of our constitution, and an impious outrage on the memory of itsgreat founder. For these reasons, we signified ourpleasure that Elseon would not insist on our compliance with his request. He appeared to acquiessein our decision. and we afterwards contracted withSambul, King of Sciota to give her in marriage tohim.102 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY.1'But the after conduct of your son, may it pleaseyour most gracious majesty, did not correspond withthe high confidence we placed in him. With deepregret and the most painful sensations we are compeledto declare that he has committed a crime which hasdisturbed our peace and happiness, dishonoured ourfamily and outraged the authority of our government,and the rights of our Empire. He has formed a planto transport Lamesa into your dominions. To accomplish this, he made use of the most insidious arts,He took advantage of our clemency and indescretion,and the high respect we manifested toward him, andwithout our consent and contrary to our will, he hassucceeded in transporting to the City of Gamba.in his perfidious design. Lamesa is doubtless withyou in the City of Gamba. A crime which of suchmalignity, committed against the honour and interest anddignity of our family government and Empire demandsreparation. Your majesty will perceive that the onlyadequate reparation which can be made, will be thereturn of Lamesa to our dominions. We thereforedemand that she be conveyed back with all possibleexpidition.No other alternative can prevent the interruptionof that confidence friendship and peace, which havelong continued between both Empires, and save themfrom the horrors and calamities of war.Signed. RAMBOCK, EMPEROR OF SCIOTA.When Hamboon had received this letter, he immediately invited his counsellors to attend him, and laidit before them, and as it was a subject of vast impor-THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 103tance to the Empire, he likewise invited his priests andprincipal officers to join them in council. The various passions appeared to operate in the course oftheir consultation. To avoid Hostilities, with all itsattendant calamities, was what they most ardentlydesired, and some contended that if no other alternative could be agreed upon, it would be for the interest of the Empire and the best policy to return theprincess, but others reprobated this measure aspusilanimous, and cowardly and advised if no other reparation would be received, to retain the princess andmaintain the conflict with a manly and heroic firmness.What, say they, do not honour and justice require thatwe should defend the rights of the imperial family?If the Sciotan government should demand that weshould send them our Emperor or Empress, wouldnot honour impel us to spurn at the demand, and rejectit with indignation? Their present demand is as preposterous and as insulting. No satisfaction will theyreceive for the supposed injury, except that weshould seize the Princess of the Empire, tare herfrom the bosom of her consort and transport her toSciota. Are we capable of an act so unjust and inhuman, so base and disgraceful? As the debate was proceeding Elseon rose. May I says he— claim yourattention a moment. Undaunted by the crueldemand <fc haughty menace of the Sciotan government, I am willing to abide your decision. If transporting Lamesa into our dominions when she hadbeen most unjustly and inhumanly denied me for acompanion, is a crime so perfidious <fc flagitious as ofsuch magnitude, then inflict a punishment that shall104 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."be adequate to the offense. But if the Almighty,whose benevolence is infinite, has designed the unionof hands where hearts are united, I have then transgressed no divine law, but have obeyed the divinewill. I am therefore innocent of any crime. I havean undoubted right to retain Lamesa for my wife, andno government on earth have any authority fromheaven to tear her from my bosom. Nor will I submit to such an event, so long as the life blood circulates thro\* my heart and warms my limbs. If war mustbe the consequence of my proceedings, which transgressed no principle of honour justice or humanity,were both innocent <fc honourable, it will give me themost painful feelings. I shall deplore its calamities,but will never shrink like a Dastard from the conflict.The Sciotan King, who is at the bottom of all themischief shall never behold me fleeing before hisgigantic sword, or skulking to avoid a single combatwith him. You have therefore no other alternativebut either first to slay your prince, and then likecowards to send back your princess to Sciota, or elseto make immediate preparations to meet their threatened vengeance, with fortitude and courage.This speach of the young prince united the wholecouncil. and they unanimously agreed to reject thedemand of the Sciotan government. A letter waswritten and an Envoy dispatched, with instructions toattempt a reconciliation. He precipitated his journeyto the court of Rambock, and when he arrived, hedelivered him the following letter.May it please your most excellent Majesty. NextTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 105to the welfare and prosperity of our Empire, we shouldrejoice in the welfare A prosperity of yours. It istherefore with extreme regret that we view theunhappy difference, which has arisen A which threatens to involve the two Empires in the calamities ofwar.Had you demanded a reparation for the supposedinjury which which would consist with the principlesof justice A the honour of our crown and government, itshould be given you with the utmost cheerfulness.But to return you Lamesa, who has now become theprincess of Kentuck, would be tearing her from thearms of an affectionate husband A breaking the bondof solemn wedlock. As the compliance with yourdemand, will subject us to the commission of such aninjustice A cruelty, it must therefore be our duty todeclare that we will not return the young princess. Aas such an event would destroy her happiness as wellas that of her affectionate consort, we shall permit herto tarry in our dominions A grant her protection. Weare however desirous that an honourable reconciliation may take place, and a good understanding berestored. To effect this most important A very desirable object, we have given full authority to Labankoour beloved brother, the bearer of this Letter, tonegotiate a settlement of our difference, providedyou will receive anything as a substitute for whatthe object you have demanded.Signed. HAMBOON, EMPEROR OP KENTUCK.The mind of Rambock was not formed for the perpetual exercise of resentment, A malice, A havingconversed a considerable time with Labanco, who106 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."apologized for the conduct of the young prince withgreat ingenuity his anger abated and he felt a disposition for the negotiation of friendship. But the indignation and malice of Sambul encreased with time, hisdark soul thirsted more ardently for revenge, and nothing would satisfy but blood and carnage. He employedinstruments to assist in faning the spark of resentment, and blowing them into the flames of war. Notcontent to represent facts as they existed, and in theirtrue colours, monstrous stories were fabricated and putin circulation, calculated to excite prejudice and rousethe resentment of the people against Elseon, and thewhole Empire of Kentuck. He had recourse to aclass of men who were denominated prophets and conjurors to favour his designs. They had for manyages a commanding influence on the minds of a greatmajority of the people. As they pretended tounderstand, have art of investigating the councils anddesigns of the heavenly Hierarchy, and to havea knowledge of future events, the people listenedwith pleasure to their representations, predictions andtho't it impious to question or doubt their fulfilmentA small company of these necromanceers or juglersassembled on the great square of the City, and mounteda stage which was provided for them. The citizensattended It was a prodigious concourse of all classesof citizens The of all descriptions both wise and simple,both male and female. They surrounded the stage andwere all attention. All anxious to learn the decreesof heaven, and the future destinies of the Empire.Drofalick, their chief prophet extended his arms andcast up his eyes to -Heaven. Quoth he, HeavenTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 107unfolds her massy gates, and opens to my view a prospect wide and vast. The seven sons of the great Spiritseize their glittering swords, and swear that they shallnot be sheathed till blood in torrents run and delugethe fair land of Kentuck I behold armies martialingon the celestial plain, and hear warriors 4 heroes cry,Avenge the crime of Elseon. I hear a thundering,voice proceeding from the great throne of him whorules the world, proclaiming thus, Corn shall notgrow in the Sciotan fields nor mammouth yield theirmilk, nor fish be taken in the snare but pestilenceshall roam, unless Sciota shall avenge the crime ofElseon. Drofalick ended his prophesy. Hamaokthen arose and in his hand he held a stone which hepronounced transparent. Thro' this he could viewthings present and things to come, could behold thedark intriques and cabals of foreign courts, A beholddiscover hidden treasures, secluded from the eyes ofother mortals. He could behold the galant A hismistress in their bedchamber, and count all their moleswarts and pimples. Such was the clearness of hissight, when this transparent stone was placed beforehis eyes. He looked firmly and steadfastly on thestone and raised his prophetick voice. I behold Ham-boon with all his priests and great officers assembledaround him "With what contempt he declares hedespises all the Sciotans. They are, says he, cowards and poltroons. They dare not face my bravewarriors. Here I see four men coming forward bearing an image, formed with all the fetures of uglinessand deformity. This they called Sambul the King ofSciota, the whole company break forth into boister-108 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."ous Laughing. Ah, see and they are outing off hishead with their swords. Yes, and are now kicking itabout the palace. Here is a pole, it is stuck uponthat and carried thro' the City. Oh my loving sparks,Elseon and Lamesa, what makes you so merry? WhyElseon says he has outwitted the Sciotans, he hasgot the prize and he little regards their resentment.Hamack was proceeding with such nonsensical visions, when the whole multitude interrupted him witha cry, Revenge, Revenge, "We will convince theKentuckans that we are not cowards or poltroons.Their heads shall pay for their sport in kickingabout the pretended head the head of our pretendedbeloved King We will avenge the crime of Elseon.The great and good Being is on our side and threatens uswith famine and pestilence, unless we avenge the crimeof Elseon.The arts of the Conjurers were the consummationof Sambuls plan to produce in the minds of the multitude an enthusiasm and rage for war. He now repairsto the Emperor and solicits him to assemble his counsellors immediately, proclaim war and concert measuresfor its prosecution. The Emperor replies that theyshould soon be assembled, but as to war, it was asubject which reguired great consideration.Early on the next day his counsellors -priests andprincipal officers met him in the council room. Helaid before them the Letter of Hamboon, and addedobserved that tho\* the government of Kentuck hadrefused to return Lamesa, yet they had offered tomake to our government a recantation, for Elseon'scrime, <fe to pay us almost any sum as a reparationTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 109for our injury. The council sat silent for some time.At length the venerable Boakim arose.I must beg, says he, the indulgence of yourmajesty, <fe this honourable council for a fewmoments. Never did I rise with such impressionsof the high importance of our deliberations, as whatI now feel. The great question to be decided, ispeace or war. If peace can be preserved with honour,then let us maintain peace, but if not, let us meet warwith fortitude and courage.As to the great Crime of Elseon, no one presumesto present an apoligy. Even their own governmentacknowledge that he had been guilty of a greatCrime. But is it of such malignity as to require theconflagration of towns, and cities and the lives of milionsto make an expiation? Can no other reparation consistent with justice and humanity be received? Ormust we compel in order to have an atonement madefor the crime of Elseon compel the government ofKentuck to commit another crime to separate, to tearfrom each others embrace the husband and wife? Sucha reparation as this, we cannot in justice expect.Shall we then accept of no other? Cannot our bleeding honour be healed without sheding blood withoutlaying a whole Empire in ruins? Such refined notionsof honour may prove our own ruin, as well as theruin of those on whom we attempt to execute ourvengence The calamities of war have a reciprocalaction on the parties. Each must expect to endure aportion of evils, how large a portion would fall to ourshare in case of war, it is not for us to determine.While thirsting for revenge, we contemplate with110 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."infinite pleasure, their armies routed, and their warriorsbleeding under our swords their women helpless andchildren expiring by thousands, and their country inflames. But reverse the scene. Suppose the enimyhave as much wit, as much stratagim, courage,strength and inhumanity as what we you possess, andsuch may be your situation. When the floodgate isonce opened, who can stop the torrent, and preventdevastation and ruin. We ought therefore It was neverdesigned by the great and good Being that his childrenshould contend, and destroy that existence which hegave them, they all have equal rights and ought tostrive to maintain peace and friendship. This has beenthe maxim of our fathers and this the doctrine taughtby the great Founder of our government and religion.Under the influence of this maxim, our nation hasgrown to an emence multitude, and contentment and happiness have been universal. But why can we notenjoy peace with honour? What insurmountableobsticles are there to prevent? Why truely a recantation and — (word illegible) — are no compensation forthe injury? For other offenses these are accepted,and why must the offense of Elseon be singular?The Emperors daughter we presume is happy, norcan it be a disgrace to the imperial family that shehas married the son of an emperor, the heir apparentto his crown. But she wasjo have been the wife ofSambui, the King of Sciota We can therefore withhonour to our government accept the reparationoffered. and thus preserve the blessings of peace.But if we suffer resentment, pride and ambition toTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." illplunge us into a war, where will its mischiefs, wherewill its miseries end? As to both empires are nearlyequal as to numbers and resources, I will venture topredict their eventual overthrow and destruction.Boakim would have proceeded, but Hamkol rose andinterrupted. It was impudence in the extreme, buthe had much brass and strong lungs, and could be heardfurther than Boakim"Such sentiments, says he, may comport with theinfirmities of age, but they are too degrading and cowardly for the vigor of youth and manhood. If we sufferinsult, perfidy and outrage to pass with impunity, wemay afterwards bend our necks to be trodden uponby every puny upstart, and finical coxcomb. No.Let us march with our brave warriors into the dominion of Hamboon. This effeminate and luxurious Courtwill tremble at our presence and yield the fair Lamesaunto our possession. But if they should still have thetemerity to refuse, we will then display our valour byinflicting upon them a punishment, which their crimesdeserve. Yes, our valiant heroes shall gain immortalrenown by their heroic exploits. and by the destructionof all shall who Sciota will ever after have the preeminence over Kentuck, and compel her haughty sonsto bow in our presence. Let war be proclaimed. andevery kingdom and tribe from the River to the Lakeswill pour forth their warriors, anxious to avenge ourcountrys wrongs. Scarce had he done speaking.And Lakoonrod, the High Priest arose. He was inthe interest of Sambul and had married his sister. Hehad taken great umbrage at Elseon, for saying that112 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY.1'the priesthood had too great an assendency at thecourt of Hambock. And lifting up his sanctimoneouseyes slowly toward heaven, and extending his rightreverand hand a little above an horizontal position hespoke.When the laws which are contained in our holyreligion are transgressed, it is my duty as HighPriest of the Empire to give my testimony againstthe transgression. Elseon, the heir apparent tothe imperial throne of Kentuck has been guilty ofRobery and impiety within our dominions. He hasrobed this Empire of an invaluable treasure, and ashis crime is a most flagicious transgression of ourdivine law it must have been committed in defianceof the high authority of heaven, therefore it is anact of the greatest impiety. The injury the insultand the outrage has not been committed against usalone, if this was the case, perhaps we might acceptof reparation; but it is committed against the throneof Omnipotence and in defiance of his authority. Noreparation can of consequence be received, except itbe a return of the stolen treasure, or the Blood of the Transgressor. Nothing else can satisfy therighteous demand of the Great and good Being. Hetherefore calls upon the civil power to execute hisvengeance, to inflict an exempleary punishment. Andas it is his cause and you are imployed as his instruments, you may be assured that his almighty arm willadd strength to your exertions, and give you a glorious victory over your enimies. The mighty atchieve-ments of your warriors shall immortalize their names,THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 113and their heads shall be crowned with never fadinglaurels. and as for those who shall die, gloriouslyfighting in the cause of their country and their God,they shall immediately receive etherial bodies, andshall arise quickly to the abodes of increasingdelight and glory.He said no more. He had discharged some partof his malice against Elseon, for saing that thepriesthood had too much influence in the court ofRambock. The door was now opened and it was seenthat Sambul at the head of a great multitude ofcitizens, had taken their stand in front of the house,all crying with a loud voice, Revenge and war. Longlive the Emperor and King. We will avenge theirwrongs. This uproar and the harang of the highPriest determined the wavering mind of the Emperor. But the venerable Boakim <fc Bilhawaopposed~the torrent and stood as stood firm Theyboldly affirmed that a war was impolitic and unjuBtifi-abe But the Their opposition however, was in vain.The popular voice was against them and the other twocounsellors Hamkal and Gammaok gave their vote forwar urged with great vehemence that war should bedeclared.In vain were all the reasonings of the venerableBoakim and Bilhawan. The other two counsellors,Hamkol and Gamanko joining the Emperor, they proceeded to made out a declaration of war. It was inthese words.War is declared by the government and Empire ofSciota against the government and Empire of Ken-124 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."tuck. The Sciotans are required to exterminate withdistinction of age or sex all the inhabitants of theEmpire of Kentuck. They are required to burn theirhouses and either to destroy or take possession of theirproperty, for their own use and benefit. This destruction is demanded by the great benevolent Spiritand the Empire government of SciotaSigned. RAMBOCK EMPEROR OF SCIOTA.A copy of this declaration was given to Labancothe brother and Envoy of Hamboon. He demanded aguard to defend him against the rage of the commonpeople, who discovered a disposition to plunge theirswords into the heart of every man whose fortune itwas to be born on the other side of the River.Labanco was guarded as far as the River and conveyed across in safety. He repaired to Gambaand there he proclaimed the intelligence of the declaration of War and there made known all the proceedingsof the Sciotan government.Fond ParentsI have received two letters the 10th jan1812 the last mentioned Mr. Kings dismission fromyou, wich no doubt is great trial to you ChristianMinister is great loss to any to any people - - - -teaches us the uncertainty of all sublinary enjoyments and where to place our better trust and happinessNOTE OF COPYIST.— The above fragment of a letter is allthat appears on page 132, after which the next leaf, pp.133-4, is missing. The narrative then goes on thus.Hambolan, King of Chiauga was the next proud chiefwho appeared at Tolanga, with a chosen band ofwarriors. He had fifteen thousand who boasted ofTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 115superior strength A ability. Their countananceswere fierce and bold, being true indicators of theirhearts which feared no danger. They were alwaysobedient to the orders of their king, who alwayssought the most conspicuous place for the display ofhis valor. Possessed of gigantic strength and of astonishing agility, he was capable of performing the mostbrilliant achievements, which would almost exceedbelief His mind was uncultivated by science and hispassions were subject to no restraint. His resentment was quick and fiery and his anger knew no boundsfor expression Nothing was concealed in his heart,whether friendship or enmity, but always exhibitedby expressions by expressions strong and extravagant.He had a soul formed for war. In the bustle of thecampaign in the sanguine field where heroes fell,beneath his conquering sword his ambition was gratified and he acquired the highest martial glory.Ulipoon King of Michegan received the orders of the Emperor twith with great joy War suited his nig-ardly and avaricious soul, as he was in hopes toobtain great riches from the spoils of the enimy.Little did he regard the miseries and destruction ofothers, if by this means he oould obtain wealth andagrandize himself. A mind so contracted and selfish,was not capable of imbibing one sentiment of generosity or humanity or even of honour. Nonehowever, were more boisterous than he for war.None proclaimed their own valour with so louda voice. Yet none were more destitute of courage andmore capable of treachery, baseness and cruelty. Yet116 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."with the sounding epithets of patriotism, honour andvalour, he proceeded with great expedition to collecta chosen band, of dauntless warriors the consisted ofEighteen thousand warriors. Their martial appearance entitled them to a commanded of more generosity and valour than the nigardly <fc treacherousUlipoon.Nemapon, the King of Cataraugus made no wasprompt to comply with the imperial requisition.Tho' he prefered the scenes of peace and being veryfond of study and of the mechanical arts, his mindwas replenished with knowledge db and he tookgreat pleasure in promoting works of ingenuity. He was famed for great wisdom and subtlety-penetration of mind, was capable of forming greatplans and of prosecuting them with great vigour and per\*severance. He was deliberate and circumspect in allhis movements, but was always quick on any suddenemergency, to concert plans and to determine, had thefull command of his mental powers in every situation. and even when dangers surrounded him, couldinstantly determine the best measures to be pursued.He prefered the scenes of peace, but could meet warwith courage and firmness. At the head of a selectband of Seventeen thousand men, all compleatlyarmed and anxious to meet the foe, he marched to jointhe grand Army.Not far behind appeared Ramack, the King ofGeneseo. "With Furious and resolute, he had made theutmost expidition to collect his forces. Nor did hedelay a moment when his men were collected and pre-THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 127pared to move. At the head of ten Thousand boldand robust wariors, he appeared at the place of general rendezvoz, within one day after the King ofCataraugus had arrived. He bosted of the rapidityof his movements and tho he commanded the smallestdivision of the grand army, yet he anticipated distinguished laurels of glory, not less than what wouldbe obtained by their first commanders.When these kings with their forces had all arivedat Tolanga, the Emperor Rambock ordered them toparade on a great plain. They obeyed and and wereformed in solid coilums. The Emperor then attendedby his son Moonrod, his Counsellors and the highPriest presented himself before them. His garmentsglittered with ornaments, and a bunch of long feathersof various colours were placed on the front of hiscap. His sword he held in his right hand and beingtall <fc straight in his person, and having a countenancegrave and bold, when he walked his appearance wasmajestic. He was the commander in chief and suchwas the high esteem <fc reverence, with which thewhole army viewed him, that none were consideredso worthy of that station. Taking a stand in frontof the army he brandished his sword. All fixed theireyes upon him and gave profound attention. He thusmade an address.Brave warriors. It is with the greatest satisfactionA joy, that I now behold you assembled to revengeone of the most flagitious Crimes of which man wasever guilty. Ingratitude and perfedy, seduction <fcRobery, <fc the most daring impeity against heavenhave been perpetrated, within our dominions. The118 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."young Prince of Kentuck is the monster who hasbeen guilty of these Crimes. Our most amiabledaughter Lamesa he has seduced, and contrary to ourwill has transported her into his own country. Wishing to avoid the effusion of human blood, we offeredto withhold our revenge, if the Emperor of Kentuckwould restore our daughter. But he has refused.He has implicated himself and all his subjects in thehorrid Crimes of his son. Their whole land is nowguilty and every man woman and child are the properobjects of severe chastisement. The great and GoodBeing is indignant towards them, and views them withthe utmost detestation and abhorrence As we havereceived our power from him he requires that weshould not only avenge our own wrongs, but likewiseexecute his vengeance on the perfidious ingrates andmonsters of wickedness and impiety That this is hisdivine will has been clearly investigated by our holyprophets and priests, who have given us the mostindubital positive assurance that success shall attendour arms, that we shall be enriched with the plunder of our enemies, that laurels of immortal famewill crown the achievements of our warriors, and thatthey shall be gloriously distinguished on the plainsof Glory, like suns and stars in the firmement ofheaven. Our cause is just, the celestial powersabove are on our side, they have brandished theisswords and sworn that blood shall deluge the fair landof Kentuck. You have done well my Brave warriorsthat you have assembled around the standard of yourEmperor. I will conduct you to the field of battle andTHE "MANUSCRIPT 3TORY." 119direct your movements. My son Moonrod, whosearm like mine is not enfeebled by age, will minglewith the boldest combatants and lead you on to victory.By the most valorous exploits by blood <fc slaughter,we will convince our enimies that we are not cowardsand poltroons. Their ridicule and derision shall be turnedinto mourning and lamentation. <fc we will teach theireffeminate and luxurious government not to despise thehardy and brave sons of Sciota.In full confidence that we shall gloriously triumphand add immortal lustre to our names, we will nowmarch forward we will and avenge the injuries done tothe honour of our imperial government and the rightsof our Empire and all the celestial beings above shallrejoice in the execution of divine vengeanoe.He said no more. The whole army with one voiceproclaimed Long live the Emperor. We swear thathe shall never find us Cowards <fc Poltroons. TheEmperor then ordered them to march by divisions <fceach king to lead on his own subjects. They begantheir march toward the land of Kentuck. Their provisions and baggage were borne on the backs of mam-mouth. Each man had a sword by his side and a spearin his hand. and on their breasts down to their hips <fcon their thighs they wore peices of mammouth skinto guard them from arrows and the weapons of death.and on their Caps they wore bunches of long feathers.Their garments were short so as not to encumberthem in Battle. Thus equipped A mounted, theymoved on in exact order until they arrived at thegreat River. Here they halted to provide boats totransport them across. Their baggage <fe provision120 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."were borne on the backs of their mamm mammouth,which carried prodigious loadsAnd here we will leave them for the present dk takea view of the proceedings in Kentuck.When Labanco had presented to Hamboon theEmperor of Kentuck the declaration of war and relatedthe proceedings of the Sciotan government he immediately assembled his counsellors who unanimouslyagreed to make the most active and vigirous preparations for war. The Emperor sent forth his mandatesto all the princes of his Empire requiring them toassemble the most courageous warriors, in theirrespective kingdoms and to march to the City ofGamba. All the princes of the Empire were quick toobey the requisition of their Sovereign. The armyassembled and paraded on a great plain before theCity. Hamboon attended by his two sons Elseon <fcHanock, and by his counsellors and three of his principalpriests, walked out of the city and presented himselfbefore his army.His garments were of various colours and his Capwas adorned with a bunch of beautiful Feathers,which waved high in the wind. In his left hand heheld a spear and in his right a sword. His countenancewas bold and resonute, and such was his gracefulness andeloqution, when he spoke that all eyes were fixedupon him. and all ears were attention.Brave warriors My brave sons says he, I extremelyregretted the necessity of calling you from yourpeaceful employments to engage in the bloody scenesof war. But such is the violence the malice and ambi-THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 22Jtion of the Sciotan government that nothing willsatisfy them but hostilities between the Empires.They have proclaimed war even a war of extermination against our dominions. Nor was it in our powerto prevent this most dreadful calamity, unless we toreasunder the bond of wedlock between the prince andprincess of the Empire. A transported her like aCulprit into their dominions. This was the onlyalternative which they offered to accept, to preventthis terrible crisis. A why the rigor of this demand?Was it because the young Prince had violated anylaw either human or divine? No ; it was because theKing of Sciota had fallen in love with the Princess,A wished to have her for his wife. But as she viewedhim with the utmost hatred A disgust, he has beendisappointed. To gratify his malice and revenge, hehas roused the Sciotans to take arms, A threatens todeluge our lands with the blood of our citizens cfc tolay our country in ruins. It is a war on their part togratify malice A revenge and nothing will satisfy theirmalignant passions but our compleate extermination.On our part it is a war of self defense of self preservation, a defence which will extend to our wives andour children, A to all the blessings A endearments oflife. We must either submit to behold our dearestfriends expiring in agonies our property torn from usA our houses in flames A our dearest friends expiringin agonies A even like cowards suffer them withoutresistance to cut our own throats or we must meetthem like men determine to vindicate our rights, A toretaliate all their intended mischiefs. Nor need wefear the event of the contest. Infinite benevolence122 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."will reward our situation. and grant us that assistancewhich will give success to our efforts. You, my bravesons will be inspired with courage, your hands will bestrong for the Battle and their warriors will fall beforeyou like corn before the reapers sickel. With alltheir mighty boasting and high confidence in theirsuperior cunning and prowess, they are men formed of the same materials which we possess. Our swordswill find a passage to their hearts, and the vital bloodgushing forth they will fall prostrate at our feet. Letus march then with courage to meet the implacablefoe, determined either to die gloriously fighting or toobtain victory.Having thus spoken, the whole army with a loudvoice replied, Victory or death. Lead us on to victory. At the head of this army which consisted of onehundred and fifty thousand men, he marched towardthe great River. They arived at the bank and beheldthe Sciotas all busyly employed in making preparations to cross the River.The Empress, the Princess Lamesa, and the Emperors daughters attended by a few friends and their servants arrived at the place where the army wasencamped. As soon as Elseon heard the news oftheir arrival, he hastened to the place and found thecompany had alighted at an house and that Lamesa andher friend Holika were in a room by themselves. Assoon as he entered Lamesa arose. The gloom andanxiety which were for a number of days displayedvisible in her countenance at his appearance weredispelled. He received her into his arms with anaffectionate embrace, and expressed the greatest pleas-THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 128ure at seeing her once more. The tears ran downher cheeks, for a moment she was silent, she raisedher head <fe replied. O Elseon, were it not for you Ishould be the most wretched being in existence, and yetmy love for you has been the cause of all my presentaffliction. If I had never seen you, those horridprospects which now present themselves to my view,would never have been. But you are innocent, noram I guilty of any crime. Buth how can I endure tobehold the calamities which must fall upon bothnations in consequence of our connection? Twoempires at war, spreading carnage and ruin, warriorsbleeding on the field of Battle, innocent women andchildren perishing in the agonies of death, <fc towns <fccities in flames. Ah homed prospect. Have you andI my dear Elseon produced these dreadful calamities?Is our conduct the cause which must We are not sayshe, my dear Lamesa responsible for for the horrideffects of malice and revenge which may be occasionedby our innocent conduct. If men will be so indignant towards each other, because we do right as tomassacre and do all the mischief they can, we maydeplore their weakness and depravity, but have no morereason, to make ourselvs unhappy on that accountthan if these effects were produced by some othercause. They alone are responsible for their crimes andhave reason for unhappy reflections.But how can I endure, says she, to see my dearestfriends become each others implacable enimy? Tosee them mutually engaged to destroy each otherslife? My Father for whom I ever had the greatestaffection, and my only Brother are now at the head of124 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."one hostile army, and your father and you my dearesthusband are at the head of the other. When thesearmies meet, should you not plunge your sword intothe heart of my Father and my brother, and would theynot do the same by you if in their power? Whensuch scenes present themselves to my view, theypierce my soul like dagers. and produce the keenestanguish. O that I could fly to my Father and on mybended knees implore forgiveness.Yes, says Elseon, when you have done that, he willgive you to the mighty Sambul for his wife.No, never says she, never would I submit. I abhorthe monster more than ever. He is the most malignant scoundrel in existence. To gratify his revengewhole Empires must be laid in ruins. What punishment more just than that he himself should fall inbattle. and endure the agonies which his vengeful soulis bringing on others? But as for my Father and myBrother, they have by his artifice been deceived. Iconjure you if you have any regard for my happiness,not to take their lives if in your power. Rather thanthat my hands should be stained with the blood ofyour dearest friends I will present my bosom to theirswords. There lives, says he, are safe from mysword, but hark, there is an alarm. An expresarived and informed him that the Sciotan army hadfound means to get their boats down the River in thenight unperceived, and had landed without oppositionabout three miles below them the Kentuckianencampment Elseon then embraced his wife and saidwhen your protection and my own honour call I mustobey. He left her in tears imploring heaven to pro-THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 125tect him, and runing swiftly to the army he took hisstation.CHAP. XIVHAMBOON mounted on an eligant horse richlycaparisoned, rode thro the encampment proclaimingaloud, every man to his station. Seize your armsand prepare for Battle. All his princes quick to obeyhis commands instantly repaired to their respectivedivisions. and gave orders to form their men intosolid collums. When this was done, they marcheda small distance to the pi and paraded on the greatplain of Geheno. They were now prepared for thehostile engagement. Their officers of the highestRanks marched along their in front of their divisionsand by their speeches they inspired the men with boldness and courage. They ardently wished to beholdtheir enimies, A to have an opportunity of displaying their valour in their destruction. Hamboon thencommanded his principal officers to assemble aroundhim. When they were collected which was in frontof the army, he thus addressed them.I wish for your opinion my braveNOTE.— Pages 143 and 144 are missing.and heroic commanders had each a chosen band ofwarriors, who were ordered as soon as the battleshould begin to march between the divisions andcharge the enimy. in order to break their order <fcthrow them into confusion The design of this arrangement was to break their ranks and to throw them intoconfusion.126 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."The command of these bands were given to Elseon,Labanco Hanack and two counsellors of the Emperor,Hamul and Taboon. The momentous period had arived.Each grand army were now ready, were anxious forthe combat, and sanguine in their expectations ofobtaining a glorious victory. Musicians with instruments of various kinds were now playing thro' everydivision of both Armies. They blowed horns pipesand a kind of trumpet, and beat with sticks on little tubswhose heads were formed of parchments. Themelody was truly martial and calculated to inspire eachwarrior with an ardent desire for battle and the mostdaring heroism. All was hushed. The musicians fellback in the rear. There was a perfect silence thro'both armies. Each Emperor with their swordsbrandishing rode were in front and facing their respective armies. Near three hundred thousand spearswere glittering with the reflection of sunbeams. Nota cloud to be seen in the east. The sun shone withunusual brightness, in the west a dark cloud beganto arise and distant thunder was heard to rumble.Hambock .proclaimed with a voice which was heardfrom the right to the left March march my bravewarriors, and fight like heroes. Hamboon saw thembeginning to move but not changing his countenance, which was placid and bold, he proclaimed.Stand firm my brave sons Let your arrows flythick against your enimies as they advance and finishwith your spears and your swords their destruction.The Musick again played and both armies gave a tremendous shout. Spears and swordsWhen the Sciotans had advanced with a firm andTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 227moderate step, within a small distance of Hamboonsarmy, they both armies discharged arrows with withsuch unerring aim and celerity that many brave war-riors on both sides fell prostrate. Others were sorelywounded and retired back in the rear. Their placeswere immediately supplied and the second Rank colopedA took their stations in the front. Each man fixinghis spear horizontaly and about as high as his breastthe Sciotans rushed forward with heroic yels and horrible shoutings and made a most tremendous and furiouscharge upon the Kentucks. They received them withfirmness and courage spears met spears and many werebent or broken and others were thrust o~n~ both sidesinto the bodies of heroes, whose blood gushing forththey fell with horrid groans pale and lifeless on thesanguine plain. Neither army gave back, but beingnearly equal as to strength and numbers they pouredforth upon each other with a lavish hand the impli-ments the weapons of death and destruction Determined to conquer or die, it was impossible toconjecture which Emperor would have gained thevictory had the divisions or bands in the rear of eacharmy remained inactive. But anxious to minglecharge with the boldest warriors, the Ken tuck bandsled on by their heroic princes rushed between thedivisions of the grand army and made a most furiouscharge on the Sciotans. They broke thro\* theirranks, piercing their indignant foes with deadlywounds. Heroes fell before them and many of theSciotans being struck with surprise and terror, beganto retire back. But the bands in the rear of theirarmy instantly rushed forward, and met their furious128 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."combatants. The battle was now spread in everydirection. Many valiant chiefs who commandedunder their respective Kings, were overthrown andmany thousand robost and brave warriors, whosenames were not distinguished by office, were com-peled to receive deadly wounds and to bite the dust. Itwas Elseons fortune to attack the division led by thevaliant Kamoff . He broke his ranks and killed manywarriors. While driving them furiously before him,he met Hamkol at the head of many Thousand Scio-tans. Hamkol beheld the young Prince and knew himand being fired with greatest rage and thirst for revenge,he urged on the comabat with the most driving violence. Now, he thot was a favourable chance togain immortal renown. Elseon, says he, shall feelthe effects of my conquering sword. The warriorson both side charged each other, with incrediblefury, and Elseon and Hamkol met in the centre of theirdivisions. I have found you says Hamkol perfidiousmonster, I will teach you to rob our Empire of itsmost valuable treasure. He spoke and Elseon replied.Art thou Hamkol, the counsellor of Hamback Youradvice has produced this blood and slaughter. Hamkol raised his sword and had not Elseon defended himself from the blow he never would have spoken again.But, quick as the lightning Elseon darted his swordthro' his heart Hamkol He knashed his teeth togetherand with a groanTtumbling headlong with a groanexpired.The battle raged. Labanco attacked the divisionof Sambul. His conquering sword had kiled twochief and his band performed the most brilliant exploitsTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY.19 120Sambul met him <t like an indignant panther hesprang upon him and while Labanco was engaged incombat with another chief Sambul thrust his swordinto his side. Thus Labanco fell lamented and belovedby all the subjects of the Empire of Kentuck.Hamack His learning wisdom and penetration of mind,his integrety firmness and courage, had gained himuniversal respect and given him a commanding influence over the Emperor and his other Counsellors. Hewas viewed with such respect <fc reverence that thedeath of no man could have produced more grief andlamentation and excited in the minds of the Kentuck amore ardent thirst for revenge. The officers of hisphalanx exclaimed Revenge the death of Labanco.Even lightning could not have produced a moreinstantaneous effect. With tenfoldrage and fury hiswarriors maintained the conflict and redoubled theirefforts in spreading death and carnage. Even Themighty Sambul trembled at the slaughter of his sub-jects warriors and began to despair of victory he beganto fearing that his intended revenge was turning uponhis own head. During this slaughter of Sambulsforces Hamack was engaged in battle with HabelanKing of Chiauga. No part of the war raged with amore equal balance. Warriors met warriors withsuch equal strength and courage, that it was impossibleto determine on which side was the greatest slaughter,even their heroic chiefs prudently avoided a combatwith each other and emploid their swords in overthrowing those of less distinction. The field was coveredwith the bodies of heroes besmeared with blood,130 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."which was spread thick on every side. In the meantime Hamul and Taboon who led on the other reserveddivisions of the Kentucks were fiercely engaged inspreading the war thro' the ranks of the SciotansHamul compelled to the division commanded bySabulmah to fall back, but still they fought as theyslowly retreated, and being rein forsed by a body oftroops in their rear, they continued the conflict andmaintained their position. The slaughter wasemence and each party boasted of the most brilliantachievements.Taboon made his attack on the division of Ulipoon,commanded by Harnelick. The Sciotan ranks werebroken and they must have fled in confusion had notRameck supported them with his division, warlikeband. The contest now became bloody furious andequal feats of valour were displaid by contendingheroes. The thirsty earth was overspread with thedead and dying bodies, of thousands and saciated theirits thirst by copious draughts of human blood.Hamelick himself was slain, but not until his swordwas crimsoned with the blood of his enimies ButThe dubious war appeared at last determined. Ham-back beheld his army giving ground on every hand.He rode throout their divisions and endeavored to inspirethem with persvering courage. But in vain. Theycould not withstand the impetuosity the numbers andstrength of their Enimies. Aided by the advantagethey had obtained by the arrangement they had madeto manage the conflict. The Sciotans began to retreat.Such was the situation of both armies that theyTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 26' /the Sciotans must have principally been to overthrowand destroyed if the Kentucks had been permitted tocontinue the havoc and slaughter they had begun. Buthow often are the most sanguine expectations disappointed by the decrees of heaven. At this awfulperiod whilst the atmosphere was repleate with themultifarious sounds of the clashing of swords <fcspears, the playing melody of the martial musick- - - - the shouts of the conquerors and the shrieks <fcgroans of the dying, even then the heavens wereoverspread with clouds of the most sable hue, whichhad blown from the West. The thunders roaredtremendously and the flashes of lightning were incessant.The wind began to blow from the west with greatviolence the hail poured down from the clouds and wascarried with great velocity full in the faces of the Ken-tucks. They were unable to see their enimy, orcontinue the conflict. Hambock and his princes immediately rallied their retreating forces <fe facing roundencouraged them to fight courageously since thegreat and good Being had miraculously interposed intheir behalf. The Kentuck army were unable tocontinue the conflict, they were obliged in their turnto retreat, but such was the violence of the stormthat the Sciotans could not take any great advantageof the confusion of their enimies. They howeverpursued them to the hill which had been in the rearof the Kentucks, overthowing and kiling some inthe pursuit. But as the hill was overspread withtrees, which broke the violence of the wind Hambooncommanded his men to face their pursuers, The Sciotans finding that their enimies had the advantage of132 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."the ground, <fe being intolerably fatigued with thebattle, which had lasted near four hours retired asmall distance back, and as soon as the storm abated,they marched beyond the ground which was strewedthick with the slain. Thus ended the great battle onthe plain of Geheno. Both There they encamped andas the storm had now subsided, both armies proceeded to make provision to refresh themselvs, beingnearly exhausted by the fatcagus fatigues of a mostbloody contest, which had lasted nearly five hours.That day afforded them no time to bury their dead.The sun did not tarry in his course, but hid himselfbelow the horizon, and darkness spread itself over theface of the earth. The warriors with their spears intheir hands extended themselvs upon the earth, andspent the night in rest and sleep. Next morning theyarose with renovated vigour Their thots wereimmediately turned to the sanguine field. Manywarriors say they, lie there pierced with mortalwounds and covered with with blood. Their spiritshave assumed etherial bodies, and they are now receiving the rewards assigned to the brave on the plains ofglory. But they demand of us that we should securetheir remains from the voracious jaws of carnivorousbeasts animals by intering them in the earth. Buthow can this be done unless both armies will mutuallyagree to lay down their arms during the interment, of the remains of their respective warriors. Hamboondispached a messenger to Hambock who agreed toan armistice for the term of two days, and that tenthousand men might be emploid from each army inTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 133burying the dead. It was indeed a melancolly day.The conquest was not desided. Neither army hadgained a victory, or had reason to boast of anysuperior advantage obtained or any heroic atchieve-ments which were not matched by contending warriors, an emence slaughter was made. Hear one hundred thousand were extended breathless on the field.This was only the beginning of the war and what must bethe dreadful calamities if it should continue to rage?If a few more battles should be faught, and the enfuri-ated conqueror should turn his vengeful swordagainst defenceless women and children and mingle theirblood with the blood of heroes, who had fallen bravelyfighting in their defence. When both armies viewedthe the emence slaughter that had been made of theirrespective friends, instead of cooling their ardor forthe war it only served to encrease their knowledge andtheir thirst for revenge.Ten thousand men from each army without armsmarched to the field where the battle was faught, andhaving selected the bodies of their respective warri-ors, they carried as many of them together as whatcould be done with convenience <fe then diging intothe ground about three feet deep ft throwing thedirt around in a circular form upon the edge of thegrave they then deposited the bodies in it. coveringthe ground over which they had dug with the bodiesand then placing others upon them until the whole weredeposited. They then proceede to throw dirt uponthem and to raise over them a high mound. In this man-134 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."ner they proceeded until they had finished the inter-ment The bodie8 of the chiefs that were slain werecarried to their respective armies, and performing manycustomary solemnities of woe, they were intered andprodigious mounds of eart were raised over them.After the funeral rites were finished and the armisticehad expired, the hostile Emperors must now deter^mine on further plans of operations.The field was widely strewed and in many places thicklycovered with human bodies extended in various positions on their sides their backs and faces. Some withtheir arms and Jegs\_jwidely\_spread, some with theirmouths open and eyes stairing. Mangled with swordsspears and arrows and besmeared with blood and dirt. Mosthideous forms and dreadful to behold. Such objectsexcited horror and all the sympathetick and compassionate feelings of the human heart As both Emperorshad agreed to the suspension of arms for the purpose of burying the remains of these of the heroicwarriors, ten thousand men from each army enteredthe field and began the mournful employment. Theydug holes about three feet deep and in a circular form,and of about twenty or thirty feet diameter. and inthese they deposited the bodies of their decesedheroes and then raised over them large mounds ofearth. The bodies of the chiefs who had fallen werecarried to their respective armies, and buried with allthe solemnities of woe. Over them they raised prodigious mounds of earth, which will remain for agesas monuments to comemorate the valiant feats ofthese heroes and the great battle of Gaheno.THE "MANUSCRIPr STORY." 135After the funeral Rites were finished, A the armistice having expired, the hostile Emperors must nowdetermine on further plans for operation. Hambackrequested the advice of his principal officers, whowere unanimous in their opinion that it was their bestpolicy to retire back, to the hill, which was oppositeto the place where they landed, and there wait for reinforcements. This they effected the next night without being prevented by their enimy. Hamboon thenext day marched toward them, but not thinking itgood policy to attack them at present took possessionof the hill in plain view of the Sciotans and thereencamped with his whole army. As the Sciotanasallied out in parties to plunder and to ravage the country, these were pursued overtaken A met by partiesof the Kentucks Many bloody skirmishes ensued withvarous success, <fc many feats of heroism were dis-plaid on both sides. Wherever the Sciotans marched,devastation attended their steps, A all classes of people without distinction of age or sex, who fell intotheir hands became the victims of their infuriatedmalice. The extermination of the Kentucks appearedto be their oject, not considering that it might soonbe their turn to have such cruelties retaliated uponthemselves with three fold vengeance. They likewisehad a further object in view, hich was to provokeHamboon to attack the main army, whilst posted inan advantageous situation But it was Hamboonspolicy by placing garrisons in different stations, A bypatroling parties to prevent the Sciotand from plundering and destroying his towns, A from obtaining provisions from his country A in this way to compel them136 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."to cross the river or to attack his army in the poso-tion he had taken. While the two Emperors werethus manoevering and seeking by various arts <fcstratigems to gain an advantage over each other, avery extraordinary incident\_of\_heroi8m and the displayof the most sincere and ardent friendship transpired,displayed transpired which is\_worthy~\_a\_place onthe historic page Insidents transpired of heroism <fcfriendship. In the dominion of Hamboon there livedtwo young men who were bred in the same village,having minds formed for the exercise of the noblestprinciples and possessed of congenial tempers. Theyearly contracted the greatest intimacy and formedtowards each other the strongest attachment. Theyjoined the standard of Hamboon and in the great battleof Gaheno they faught side by side and performedexploits equally bold and heroic they eat at the sameboard and drank of the same cup and in all their excursions they attended each other and walked hand inhand. As these two friends were seting in their tentone evening, Theljard who was the oldest says toHamkon something whisper to me that this night wecan perform a most brilliant exploit The Sciotanshave held a great festival and until midnight they willbe employed in singing and in dancing and in variousdiversions. Being greatly fatigued, when they liedown to rest their sleep will be sound. We may thenenter their camp by slyly getting round them by theircentinels unperceived and make a most dreadfulslaughter. Your plan replied Hamkion is excellent.It is worthy of the character of an hero. I will joinTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 137you. I will either triumph with you in the success of the enterprize or perish in the attempt\* Perhaps wemay atchieve a glorious deliverance to our Countryby destroying our cruel enimies. They both takingtheir swords and tomehauks repaired toward the campof the Sciotans, in order to reconoiter and find wherethey could enter and not be perceived by the Centinals.The Moon shone bright but would set about threeoclock in the morning This was the time they hadfixed upon to begin the massacer of their enimies.At length all became silent, the moon disappearedA these young heroes had accomplished their plan ingetting into the camp of the Sciotans unperceived.They found them lying in a profound sleep, for thefatigue of the day and revels of the night had bro'tweariness upon them, and considering when they camedown that the vigilence of their guards would securethem fro surprise, they slept with an unusual soundness, but their vigilence could not prevent an unsuspected destruction. The Tomehauks and swords ofthese daring youth soon caused hundreds to sleep ineternal slumber, and so anxious were they to finish thedestruction of their enimies that the day began todawn, before they had cleared themselvs from thecamp of their enimies Scarce however had theypassed the last Centinal and the alarm was given. TheSciotans beheld a most terrible slaughter of theirwarriors, and being fired with indignation sallied forthin parties in every direction. Kelsock and Hamkoohad nearly gained the encampment of the Kentucks,and Hamkoon with a party of Sciotans had overtakenHamko. Kelsock was so far in advance that he was138 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY.'1now safe from all danger, but turning his eyes round,he beheld Hakoon seize his friend, who was attempt- •ing to defend himself against the party. Kelsockturned instantly and runing furiously back cried, Spareoh spare the youth, he is innocent. I alone contrivedthe slaughter of the Sciotans, too much love to hisfriend induced him to join in the enterprize, Here ismy bosom, here take your revenge. Scarce had hespoken and Haloon plunged his sword into the heart ofHamko. The young hero fell and with a groan expired.Kelsock instantly rushed upon Haloon and darted hissword thro' his heart. Prostrate he tumbled at thefeet of Hamkoo. But Kelsock could not long survive. A spear pierced him in the side. He cast hiseyes on the lifeless body of his friend and fell onhis lifeless body it, he embraced it and never breathedagain. Ah heroic youths, in friendship ye lived and inlife and death ye were joined.Forty days had now expired since the two armieshad taken their different positions. Each hadreceived large reinforcements which supplied theplace of the slain. Experience had taught them touse stratigem instead of attacking under great disadvantages and yet to remain long in their presentsituation could not possibly terminate the war success fully on the part of the Sciotans. Rambockconsidering the obsticles which attended the prosecution of every plan at last by the advice of Sambuland Ulipoon, determined on a most rash and desperateenterprize. An enterprize which would in a measuresatiate their revenge, provided that it should evenproduce the annihilation of the army. As soon asTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 13.0darkness had overspread the earth at night, Rambockmarched his whole army toward the City of Gamba.<fc such was the stillness of their movements that theywere not perceived, nor was it known by Hamboonthat they had marched until the morning light. Assoon as the Kentucks found that the Sciotans foundthat had abandoned the place of their encampment andfound the direction they had gone, they immediatelypursued them with the utmost expedition. But toolate to prevent the intended slaughter db devastationThe Sciotans without delaying their march by attacking any forts in their way, merely entered the vilageskiling the inhabitants who had not made their escapeand burning their houses. They arived before the Cityof Gamba. Great indeed was the surprise and terror dbconsternation of the Citizens. Many fled to the fort.A band of about three thousand resolute warriorsseized their arms, determined to risk their lives inthe defence of the City. The leader of the band wasLamack the eldest son of Labanco. He inherited thevirtue of his excellent Father and even thirsted torevenge his death, by sacrificing to his manes thebones of his cruel enimies. He posted his warriorsin a narrow passage which led to the City. TheSciotan Emperor immediately formed his plan ofattack. A large host selected from all the granddivisions of his army marched against them. Theywere commanded by Moonrod. He led them onagainst this galant and desperate band of Kentucks <fcmade a most furious and violent charge upon them.Bat they were resisted with a boldness which willforever do honour to their immortal valour. Many140 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."hundreds of their enimies they peirced with theirdeadly weapons, <fc caused heaps of them to lie prostrate in the narrow passage. Such prodigious havockwas made on the Sciotans by this small band of valiant citizens who were driven to desperation and whoseonly object was to sell their lives dear to their enimies. , that even Moonrod began to despair of forcinghis way into the City thro' this naroow passage.Being informed by a treacherous Kentuck of anotherpassage, he immediately dispatched a band of aboutfour thousand from his army to enter the city throthat passage and to fall upon the rear of the Kentucks.This plan succeeded. These heroes now found thewar to rage both in front and rear and part facing theirnew assailants, they attacked their new assailantsthem with incredible fury. What could they do?Resistance was now in vain. They could no longermaintain the bloody contest against such a mightyhost. Lamack then commanded the survivors of his little band to break thro' the ranks of his last assailants,and to retreat to the fort. It was impossible to withstandthe violence of their charge. They broke thro' theranks of their enimies, and made a passage over thebodies of heroes, thro' which the retreated and marchedto the fort. About seven hundred with their valiantleader thus made their escape and arived safe in the fortThe remainder of the three thousand sold their lives indefence of their friends and their country. This battlechecked the progress of the enemy which preventedan emence slaughter of Citizens, as the greatest parthad opportunity by this means to gain the fort. Assoon as all resistance was overcome and had subsided,THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 141the Sciotans lost no time, but marched into the cityand commenced a general plunder of all articles whichcould be conveniently transported. Ulipoon thocareful not to expose his person to the deadlyweapons of an enimy, was however very industriousin this part of the war. None discovered so muchengagedness as himself to grasp the most valuableproperty in the City. But expecting the Kentuckarmy to arrive soon, they must accomplish their mischief with the utmost expidition. The City they saton fire in various places and then retired back <fcencamped near the fort intending on the next day,unless prevented by the arival of Hamboon with hisarmy, to storm the fort and massacer the whole multitude of citizens which were there collected. Beholdthe conflagration of the city The flames in curlsspread toward heaven, and as the darkness of thenight had now commenced, this added to the horrorof the scene. The illumination spread far and wide <fcdistant vilages beheld the redning light assend. as acertain pioneer of their conflagration should the warcontilnue to rage. But mark the sorrow and lamentation of the poor citizens now encircled by the walls ofa fort. Happy that they had escaped the massacerof a barbarious unrelenting enimy, but indignant andsorrowful at beholding the ruins of all their property,and even filled with the greatest anxiety lest Hamboonshould not arive in season to prevent the storming of the fort. But their anxiety soon vanished.When the shades of evening began to overspreadthe earth Hamboon and his army had arived within fivemiles of the city. They beheld the flames beginning142 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."'to spread. The idea was instantly realized that anindiscriminate slaughter had taken place. Whatwere the distracted outcries of the dwellers of thecity. Fathers and mothers brothers and sisters wives andchildren? In addition to the destruction of all theirproperty, they now had a realizing anticipation of themassacre of their dearest friends and relations. Suchwas their anxiety to precipitate their march that itwas scarcely in the power of their commander toretard their steps, so as to prevent them from breaking the order of their ranks. They determined however to make the utmost expidition, and if they foundtheir enimy to take ample vengence. But when theyarived and found that the greatest part of the citizenswere safe in the fort, this afforded no small alleviation to their anxiety and grief. But their thirst forrevenge and their ardent desire to engage the enimy didnot in the least abate.Determined that the Sciotans should have nochance to improve the darkness of the ensuing night,to make their escape, every preparation was made toattack them the next morning. This was expected bythe Sciotans who were wishing for another opportunity to measure swords with the Kentucks. and as soonas the morning light appeared they marched a smalldistance to a hill and there paraded in proper order forbattle. Scarcely had they finished their arrangements when they beheld Hambooms army marchingtowards them. He halted within about half a mile of the Sciotans, and sent out a small party to reconoitre anddiscover their situation. In the meantime he orderedHamack his son to march with twelve thousand menTHE "MANUSCRIPTaround the Sciotan army and lie in ambuslin order to surprise them with an attackbattle should commence.As the two armies were paraded in fair view ofeach other the expectation was that a most bloodyengagement would take place immediately. . Thecowardly mind of Ulipoon was not a little terrifiedwhen he beheld the numbers and the martial appearance of the enimy. But his inventive genius was notlong at a loss for an expedient which he imaginedwould extricate himself from all danger. He repairsto Hambock and addressed him to this effect. May itplease your your majesty. During the first battle itwas my misfortune to be prevented from being at thehead of my brave warriots and displying my valour. Itis my wish now to perform feats of heroism whichshall place me on equal ground with the most valiantprinces of your Empire. With your permission I willlead on my division and storm the fort of the Kentucks.This will fill their warroiors with consternation and terror. You may then obtain an easy victory and destroythem with as much facility as you would so manyporcupines. Besides by attacking the fort at thistime when they are not expecting such a manoever,the imperial family will be prevented from makingtheir escape and I shall then be able to restore to yourmajesty your daughter Lamesa. The Emperor beingpleased with the plan granted to Ulipoon his permission to carry it into effect. Ulipoon did not wait amoment. But immediately returned back and commanded his forces which consisted of about seventeenthousand to march. He was careful to see that they144 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."carried with them at the same time all the plunderthey had taken in the City of Gamba. and particularlythat portion which had been set apart for himself.But nothing was further from the heart of Ulipoonthan to fulfill his promise. He had no intention torisk his person in the hazardous attempt to storm thefort. But his determination was to march with theutmost expidition to his own diminions. and to carrywith him his rich plunder. Having marched towardsthe fort until he had got beyond view of the Sciotanarmy. He then ordered them to turn their course tothe great River to the place where they had lefttheir boats. In this direction they had not proceeded far when they were seen by a number ofpioneers whom Hamack had sent forward to makediscoveries. As his band were not far distant, theysoon gave him the intelligence. He immediately dis-pacht an express to Ilamboon, informing him that heshould pursue them as their object probably wasto ravage the country, and recommending not to attackthe Sciotans until further information from himHamacks division were not discovered by Uiipoon andof consequence he proceeded in his march withoutsuspecting any anoiance from the enimy. happy inthe reflection that he had greatly enriched himself bya prodigious mass of plunder and not in the least troubled about his fellow warriors, whom he had desertedon the eve of a most hazardous engagement. Hamack pursued him, but was careful not to be discovered.When the sun was nearly down Ulipoon halted andencamped. During the night, Hamack made hisarrangements. He formed his men into four divisionsTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY.11 145and surrounded the enimy. Their orders were as soon asthe morning light began to appear to rush into Uli-poons encampment and to massacer his warriors without discrimination. The fatal moment had arived, andpunctual at the very instant of time, the attack wasbegun on evey part. and such was the surprise and terror which it produced that the Sciotans were throwninto the utmost confusion, and it was impossible fortheir officers to form them into any order to makedefence. Every man at last attempted to make hisescape, but wherever they rushed forward in anydirection, they met the deady spears of the Keatucks.It is impossible to describe the horror of the bloodyscene, for even humanity recoils at beholding.Humanity sympathy and compassion must drop a tearat beholding the uproar and confusion, the distress andanguish, the blood and carnage of so many thousandbrave warriors, whose great isfortune was to have acoward for their commander who were reduced tothis situation by the cowardice 4 dk nigardly and avaricious disposition of their commander But onlythree thousand made their escape. As for Ulipoonhe was mortally wounded and lay prostrate on the fieldAfter the slaughter was ended, in passing over thefield of the Slain Hamack beheld this illfated princean object truly pitiable to behold. In the agonies ofdeath and wreathing under the most acute painshe explaims Alas my wretched situation. It was avarice, cursed avarice which induced me to enagge inthis horrid war and now my the mischief and crueltiesI intended as a means to acquire wealth and agrandize-146 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."ment are justly turned upon my own head. He spokeand deeply groaning he breathes no more The galantHamack droped a tear and feeling no enmity towardthe lifeless remains of those who had been his enimieshe ordered three hundred men to bury remain on theground and commit their bodies to the Dust. Thissays he, is the will of him whose compassion is infiniteHe then directed Como his chief captain to pusue thesurvivors of Ulipoons army and to destroy them if possible. With the remainder of his own troops hereturned back to cary into effect the order of Ham-boon. Como overtook and killed about a thousand of thewretched fugitives. The remainder escaped to theirown land except about fifty who fled to the army ofHamboon and gave him the dreadful intelligence ofUlipoons destruction. Great were the amazement andconsternation of Hambock and and his whole army. Theynow beheld their situation to be extremely critical anddangerous and saw the necessity of the most vigourousand heroic exertions. What says Hambock to hisprinces, is our wisest Course to pursue? Sabamah,Hancoll and Wunapon advised him to retreat withoutlosing a moment, for say they we have taken amplerevenge for the crime of Elseon. To effect this, wehave thrown ourselvs into the heart of their country,have lost a large division of our army and are so weakened by our losses that we are in the utmost dangerof being defeated, and even annahilated. It musttherefore be the hight of folly and madness to prosecutethe war any further in this country But Sambul &theother other princes condemned this plan as pusilani-mous and disgraceful and proposed to steal a march on theTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 147Kentucks and to storm their fort, before be ore they shouldbe apprized of their design. This last advice met theapprobation of the Emperor, Nothing says he cansave our army from destruction but the most daringatchievements. That they might gain the fort without being perceived by the Kentucks, It was necessary that they should march some distance in thedirection where Hamack had encamped in order tocooperate with Hamboon, when he should commencethe engagement. When the night had far advancedHambocks forces were all "in readiness <fc began theirinarch for the fort. They proceeded about two milesand a small party in advance discovered Hamackswarriors. This discovery produced an alter ation inHambocks plans. He directed Sambul to proceedagainst the fort, whilst he as soon as the light shouldappear would attack Hamack. Sambul was highlypleased with this command, as a victory would ensurehim the capture of Lamesa. and afford him an opportunity to obtain revenge. He arived at the fort justas the blushing moon began to appear. Great indeedwas the surprise which his arival produced^ On threesides he stationed small parties, who were ordered tomassacre all the citizens, who should attempt to maketheir escape. With the main body of his army, hemade an assault upon the fort. Amazement and terrorseized the minds of the whole multitude of citizensin the fort. This enterprize of the Sciotans wasunexpectected^as they were were unprepared to defendthe fort against such a formidable force. Lamackhowever placed himself at the head of about one148 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY.11thousand warriors, and attempted to beat them backfrom the wall and prevent their making a breach.But it was impossible with his small band to withstandthe strength of such a mighty army. They brokedown part of the palisades and entered the fort thro'the breach and immediately began the massacre of thedefenceless multitude without regard to age or sex.Sambul being anxious to find Lamesa, rushed forward with a small band and surrounded a small blockhouse He then broke down the door and entered. Herehe beheld all the ladies of the imperial family and manyother ladies of distinction. He instantly sprangtowards Lamesa in order to seize her, but was prevented by Heliza, who stept between them and fallingupon her knees implored him to spare the life ofLamesa. Scarce had she spoken when the cruelmonster buried his sword in her bosom, and she felllifeless before the eyes of her dearest friend. Lamesagave a scream and looking fiercely on Sambul sheexclaimed, Thou monster of villiany and cruelty, couldnothing satiate your revenge but the death of my dearfriend, the amiable Haliza? Here is my heart I amprepared for your next victim. Ah no, says Sambul,your life is safe from my sword. I shall conduct youto my palace and you shall be honored with me for yourpartner. Insult me not says she, thou maliciousbloody villian. Either kill me or begone from mysight. My eyes can never indure the man who isguilty of such monstrous crimes. Set your heart atrest says he, my dear Lamesa. I will convince youthat I am a better man than your beloved Elseon.His head shall soon satiate my revenge. and then youTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 149shall be the queen of Sciota. At this instant a loudvoice was heard. The Kentucks are marching witha prodigious army toward the fort. Sambul turningto his warriors present ordered them to guard thewomen in that house, and not permit any of them toescape. For, says he, I must go and destroy thatarmy of Kentucks. Great already had been theslaughters which the Sciotians had made of the citizens in the fort. Those who had attempted to escapeby a gate which was thrown open were met and massacred by the Sciotan warriors on the utside, but theirprogress was arested by the appearance of Elseon atthe head of thirty thcmsand warriors. They hadmarched with the greatest speed, for they wereinformed by an express that the Sciotanshad investedthe fort. When Sambul beheld them he instantlyconcluded to withdraw his army out of the fort, and to trya battle with them in the open field. The orders wereimmediately spread thro' every part of the fort wherehis men were employed in killing the defenceless and infighting with the little band of desperate heroes,whom Hamack commanded. The Sciotans were soonformed and marched out of the fort and paraded in properorder for battle. Elseon observing this commandedhis two men to halt, and made his arrangements to rushforward and commence the attack. Having brandishedhis sword as a token for silence, he then spoke."My brave warriors," The glorious period hasarived, for arived us to display our valour in thedestruction of our enimies. What monstrous cruelties have they perpetrated? Behold your city inruins, listen to the cries of your murdered friends150 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."whose innocent blood calls for vengeance. Considerthe situation of those who are surrounded by the wallsof yonder fort, how many thousand are massacred.and how many must share their fate unless you fightlike heroes. By our valour we can effect their deliverance and rid our land of the most disgraceful murderers that ever disgraced humanity. Their standardis that of the Sciotan king, whose malice and vengefuldisposition have produced tis horrid war. Urged onby his malignant passions, he has engaged undertaken a most desperate and mad enterprize. He hasthrown himself and his army into a most critical <fc dan-gerous situationFight as you did at the great battle of Gaheno and yourenimies will lie prostrate in the dust, and your nameshall be illustrious. Rush forward my brave warriors, <fc let your motto be victory or death.Not a moment when his warriors were stimulatedfor the combat did Elseon tarry, but marched withprecipitation prepared to make a most furios charge.Sambul was ready to meet him, and marched forwardwith equal boldness and celerity. The charge was tremendous, not the dashing against each other of twomighty ships in a hurricane upon the boistrous oceanwould have been more terrible. Each warrior fearless of danger met his antagonist, determined todestroy his life or loose his own in the contest. Thebattle extended thro every part of both armies. Aswarriors fell in the front ranks their places were supplied from the rear. and reserved Bands rushingbetween the divisions were met by others of equalTHE "MANUSCRIPT STOUl'." 151strength and valour. Helicon, the intimate friend ofElseon beheld Sambul who was encouraging his warriors to fight bravely. As no other alternativeremained for them but victory or death. WhenHelicon beheld him, his youthful mind felt theimpulse of ambition. He sprang toward Sambul <fcchallenged him to the combat. Sambul gave himno time to repeat the challenge but rushed upon himwith more fury than a tiger. and with his sword hestruck Helicons head from his body. Thus fell thebrave the amiable youth, whose thirst for gloryimpeled him to attempt an exploit too rash and daring.Warriors fell on every side and the field was coveredwith the dead and dying heroes. A messenger ran <fctold Elseon of the fate of Helicon who commandedthe left wing of his army and that Sambul had brokenthe ranks and was making indiscribible havock of hiswarriors. What intelligence could have been moreshocking. Elseon could not refrain from tears for amoment. Ah Helicon says he, thou hast been moredear to me than a brother. Heaven demands that Ishould avenge thy cruel death. He instantly selecteda small band and marched with the utmost speed to theleft wing of his army, he ralied his retreating warriors and engaged in the conflict with tenfold fury. Soonhe beheld the mighty Sambul whose sword was crimsoned with the blood of his friend, and Sambul cast hiseyes upon him and as he beheld him his malice instantlyinkindled into such a furious flame that his reasonfled for a moment and he raved like a madman, bothheroessprang towards each other. Their warriorsbeheld them and being mutually inspired with the same152 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."sentiments the respective bands retired back, and leftthe two indignant champions in the space between.Ah ingrate exclaimed Sambul. Robber and perfidious scoundrel, after securing the Emperors daughterand who was my wife and transporting her from ourdominion have you the temerity to meet my conquering sword? This sword which pierced Labanco and cutof the head of Helicon and which has destroyed hundreds of warriors more mighty than yourself, shall beplunged into your cowardly heart, and your head shallbe carried in triumph into the City of Tolanga, andthere it shall be preserved as a trophy trophy of mysuperior strength and valour.Vain boaster says Elseon I rejoice to meet you;that The Benevolent Being will now terminate yourcareer of bloody crime. This sword shall pierce yourmalignant heart, and cut of that head which has plotedthe ruin of my country.Sambul eager for revenge could hear no more Hesprang forward aimed a thrust of his sword at Else-ons heart but Elseon turned the point of his swordfrom him with his own and then darted his sword intohis left arm. which caused the blood to gush forth.Sambul was now more indignant than ever. and raising his sword he threw his whole strength into onemighty effort with the intention to divide his bodyin twain, but Elseon quick as the lightning sprangback and Sambuls sword struck the ground with aprodigious force, which broke it in the middle. Hehimself had nearly tumbled his whole length butrecovering and beholding his defenceless situation, heTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 163ran a small distance, A seizing a stone sufficiently bigfor a common man to lift, he threw it at Elseon. Itflew with great velocity and had not Elseon bowed hishead his brains must have quited their habitation.His Cap however was not so fortunate. Having metthe stone as he bowed it was carried some distancefrom him and lodged on the ground. Elseon regardlessof his Cap ran swiftly upon Sambul whose feet having slipped when he threw the stone had fallen uponhis back and had not recovered. Spare oh, spare mylife says he, and I will restore peace to Kentuck and youmay enjoy Lamesa. No peace says Elseon, do Idesire with a Man, whose sword is red with the bloodof my friend. He spoke and plunged his sword intoSambuls heart. The Sciotans beheld the huge bodyof their King pale and lifeless. Consternation and terrorseized their minds. They fled in dismay and confusion.Elseon pursued them with his warriors and overtook andkilled thousands in the pursuit. About two thousandmade good their escape, and carried the doleful tidingsof Sambuls death and the slaughter of his army to theirown land, and indeed their escape was owing to thegreat anxiety of Elseon and his warriors to visit theirfriends in the fort and to ascertain the extent of themassacre that Sambul and his army had made. Afterpursuing the Sciotans about six miles Elseon and hisarmy returned in great haste and entered the fort.Great inexpressibly great was the joy of the citizenswhen they beheld them re-turning with the laurels ofVictory. and when they were informed of the destruction of so many thousands of their enimies. But asgreat was the grief and lamentation when they beheld154 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."and reflected on the vast number of citizens and of Else-ons warriors who hud fallen by the sword of theSciotans. But no death produced such universalregret and sorrow as those of Helicon and Heliza. TheDone was the intimate friend of Elseon and the other ofLamesa. They both possessed hearts which wereformed for the most ardent friendship and love. Theiracquaintance produced a sincere attachment. Theyexchanged vows of perpetual fidelity and love to eachother, and only waited for the termination of the war tofulfill their mutual engagement, to unite their handsin wedlock. But their pleasing anticipation of conjugal felicity was destroyed by the cruel sword ofSambul. Naught availed the innocence and the amiable accomplishments of the fair Haliza. She mustfall a victim to satiate the revenge of a barbaroustyrant. Had Helicon known when he attacked thesavage monster, that he had Iwd assassinated hisbeloved Heliza, it would have inspired him with theadded desire for revenge and added vigour to hia armand keenness to hu sword. Ah, said A Kentuck bardrepresented the etherial form of Ileliza as arriving onthe celestial plain, and being told that she must wait ashort time and Helicon would arrive and conduct her ashis partner to a delightful bower which was surrounded by the most beautiful flowers and deliciousfruits, and where they singing of musikal birds wouldcharm them with their melody.When Elseon had entered the fort he found thatLamack with his little band had made prisoners of the Sciotan warriors whom Sambul had left to guardthe imperial ladies, and that the Sciotans had doneTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." ZSothem no injury nor even insulted them with words.Says Elseon, for this honourable treatment of myfriends I will show these enimies compassion. Go,says he to them, return in peace to your own land, Atell your friends that Elseon will not hurt an enimywho has done him a favour. The time of Elseon wasprecious. He spent but a few moments with Lamesa,in which they exchanged mutual congratulations andexpressions of the most tender and sincere affection.She conjured him to spare the life of her father andbrother and not to expose his own life any farther thanhis own honour and the interest of his country required.I shall cheerfully says he, comply with every requestwhich will promote your happiness. He embracedher, and bade her adieu. As the situation of Ham-boons army might require his immediate return, helost no time to regulate matters in the fort. Butleaving five thousand men to bury the dead and attendthe citizens he marched with the remainder whichconsisted of about twenty thousand to Hamboonsencampment. When Sambul marched with his division against the fort, it was Hambocks intention tohave attacked Hamack the next morning, but perceiving that Hamboon had been apprized of hismovements and was then within a small distance readyto cooperate with Hamacks division, Hamback alteredhis plan and determined to wait for the return ofSambul. As for Hamboon he concluded to wait untilElseons return. These determinations of the hostileEmperors prevented for the time any engagementsbetween the two grand armies. But when the fateof Sambuls division was decided <fc Elseon had256 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."returned with the joyful news of his victory, theKentucks were all anxious for an immediate Battle.NOTE.— This was found with the foregoing manuscript and inthe same handwriting.But having every reason to place the highest confidence in your friendship and prudence I have no reluctance in complying with with your request, in givingyou my sentiments of the Christian Religion. And sofar from considering the freedom you take in makingthe request impertinence I view it as a mark of yourhigh esteem for me affectionate solicitude for my happiness. In giving you my sentiments of the Christian religion, you will perceive that I am not trameledwith traditionary and vulgar prejudice that I do notbelieve certain parts <fc certain parts and certain propositions to be treu merely because that my ancestorsbelieve them and because they are popular. In forming my creed I bring everything to the standard ofreason, that intellectual This is an unerring and sureguide in all matters of faith and practice. Havingdivested myself heretofore of traditionary and vulgarprejudice, and submiting to the guidance of reason itis impossible for me to have the same sentiments of the Christian religion which its advocates consider as orthodox. It is in my view a mass ofcontradictions. and an heterogeneous mixture ofwisdom and folly, nor can I find any clear and incon-trivertible evidence of its being a revelation froman infinitely benevolent and wise God. It is truethat I never have had the leisure nor patienceto read the elaborate and varied productions of divinesTHE "MANUSCRIPT STORY." 157in its vindication, every part of it with critical attention or tostudy the metaphysical jargon of divines inits vindication. It is enough for me to know thatpropositions which are in contradiction to each otheroannot both be true, and that doctrines and facts whichrepresent the supreme being as a barbarous and crueltyrant can never be dictated by infinite wisdom.Whatever the clergy say on the contrary can have noeffect in altering my sentiments. I know as well asthey that two and two make four, <fc that three anglesof a triangle of a triangle are equal to two rightangles. But notwithstanding I disavow any belief inin the divinity of the Bible, <fc consider it as a merehuman production designed to inrich and agrandize itsauthors and to enable them to manage the multitude.Yet casting aside a considerable mass of rubbish andfanatical rant, I find that it contains a system of ethics or morals which cannot be excelled on account oftheir tendency to amiliorate the condition of man. andto promote individual social and public happiness and thatin various instances it represents the Almighty aspossessing attributes worthy of transcendent character, having a view therefore to those parts of theBible which are truly good <fc excellent I sometimesspeak of it in terms of high commendation. Andindeed I am inclined to believe that notwithstandingthe mischief sand in juries which have been produced bythe bigoted zeal of fanatics and interested priests yet thatsuch evils are more than counterbalanced in a Christian land by the benefits which result to the greatmass of the people by their believing that the Bible isof divine origin. and that it contains a revelation from158 THE "MANUSCRIPT STORY."God. Such being my view of the subject, I pre fermy candle to remain under to remain under a bushel,nor make no exertions to dissipate their happy delusion, asItham Joyner privlg to erect Mill, and the pvlg of wtr.Wright has prefern and he next. To fix to take out wtrfor himslf and to be at one J- expense of keeping dam inrepair. If wishing to sell to gv Wrt pvlg buing ifdont buy to sel to another his works but not pvlg ofwtr I. Joyner and W. Brigham agree to build a housefor their use. Sd B. to 6 feet on the water below thewidth of the house and J to have for six feet and B. to 12feet on the same side in the rear bank and 12 feet of thegarret, to be at equal expense in the water works.To be at equal expense in the partitions of the rooms.The Writing s of Sollomon Spaulding Proved 'by sir onWright Oliver Smith, John N Miller and others.The testimonies of the above Gentlemen are now in myuossession.