

easily) and gives a very interesting description of the native costumes. He says, (Vol. V) "When I first saw Indians enter our captain's room, where I happened to be, it seemed to me that I was looking at those maskers who run about in France at Carnival time. There were some whose noses were painted blue, the eyes, eyebrows and cheeks painted black, and the rest of the face red; and these colors are bright and shining like those of our masks; others had black, red and blue stripes drawn from the ears to the mouth. Still others were entirely black, except the upper part of the brow and around the ears to the chin. There were some who had one black stripe, like a wide ribbon, drawn from one ear to the other, across the eyes, and three little stripes on the cheeks. Their natural color is like that of those French beggars who are half roasted in the sun, and I have no doubt that the savages would be very white if well covered. To describe how they were dressed would be difficult indeed. All the men, when it is a little warm, go naked, with the exception of a piece of skin, which falls from just below the middle to the thighs. When it is cold, or probably in imitation of Europeans, they cover themselves with furs but so awkwardly that it does not prevent the greater part of their bodies being seen. I have seen some of them dressed in bear skins just as St. John the Baptist is painted. This fur, with the hair outside, was worn under one arm and over the other, hanging to the knees. They were girdled around the body with a cord made of dried intestines. Some are entirely dressed. They are like the Grecian philosopher who would wear nothing he had not made. It would not take a great many years to learn all their crafts. All go bareheaded, men and women; their hair, which is uniformly black, is long, greasy and shiny, and is tied behind except when they wear mourning. The women are decently covered; they wear skins fastened together on their shoulders with cords; these hang from the neck to the knees. They girdle themselves also with a cord, the rest of the body, the head, the arms and the legs being uncovered. Yet there are some who wear sleeves, stockings and shoes, but in no other fashion than that which necessity has taught them." "In wearing the hair each one follows his own fancy. Some wear it long and hanging over to one side like women, and short and tied up on