

pretation of dreams, and in a species of divination by means of the shoulder-blades of the deer, a practice common to the Tinneh and Tungus with the Lapps and other northern nations of the eastern hemisphere, but unknown, so far as I am aware, among other American tribes.

One of the most remarkable resemblances between the customs of the two peoples appears in their funeral rites. The Tungus, as reported by Santini and Sauer, place their dead in wooden boxes, which they leave above ground and sometimes suspend to the branches of trees. Mr. Dall, in treating of the Unakhotana and Tehanin Kutchin, uses almost the same language as the Asiatic travellers in referring to the mode of sepulture of these tribes. Abernethy, with Santini and Sauer, inform us that the Tungus bury with their dead all their arms and implements, and that their mourning, which is at first violent, lasts generally for a whole year. Mackenzie, Hearne and Father Petitot bear witness to the similar violence and long duration of mourning for the dead among the Tinneh, and to the burying of all the personal effects of the deceased.

The Tungus live in tents made sometimes of skins, at others of birch-bark, as do the Tinneh, who have separate words to denote an ordinary house of the latter character and a skin-lodge. Both peoples are great fishers, hunters and berry-gatherers, while the Algonquins and other Indian tribes confine their attention largely to hunting. The use of the bow is characteristic of Tungus and Tinneh. More remarkable is the presence in the Tinneh area, as attested in Washington Irving's "Astoria," Pickering's "Races of Man," and Dr. Gibbs' "Report on the Tribes of Western Washington and North-western Oregon," of the corslet of pliable sticks interwoven with grass and sinews, which Abernethy found among the Tungus. It is supposed to be the only kind of defensive armour known in America. The Tungus, in common with other Ural Altaic tribes, use the snowshoe; but I am not able to compare its formation with that of the Tinneh tribes which Mackenzie and Hearne characterize as being of superior workmanship. The birch canoe, generally regarded as peculiarly American, is Tungusian in its origin. "The Tongusi," says an author quoted by Mr. Mackintosh, whose book on "The Discovery of America and the Origin of the North American Indians" was published at Toronto in 1836, "use canoes made of birch-bark, distended over ribs of wood and nicely sewed together.