

Example Cat. No. 129976, in the U. S. National Museum, is a wood carver's knife from the Kwakiutl Indians of Fort Rupert, British Columbia (fig. 13), collected by Mr. James G. Swan, and forms a transition between old-art and European art. The blade is that of a modern jackknife set into the end of an oak handle and held firm by a ferrule of sheet brass nailed on. Here are united in a single joint the most primitive and most persistent connective, namely, a tang driven into the grain of the handle at the working end and metal ferrule, the latest form of bond. The handle is slightly curved, and bears on its end and surface a carving of a totemic animal's head and fins. Length, $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches.



Fig. 15.
CURVED KNIFE.
Fort Rupert Indians.
Cat. No. 129977, U.S.N.M.

Example Cat. No. 129978, in the U. S. National Museum, is a similar knife, with jackknife blade in a very plain handle without carving (fig. 14). To form the joint the inner end of the handle has a saw-cut made across, into which the tang of the blade is set and made fast by a wire driven through the hinge hole. Stovepipe wire is wrapped about the joint, and a wedge of wood and one of iron driven in between the edges of the tang and the wire. Outside the wire is a wrapping of cotton rag to protect the hand. This example shows that there is plasticity even in the savage mind. The elements of this old form have been nearly all patented inventions.

Example Cat. No. 129977, in the U. S. National Museum, is a curved knife of the Fort Rupert or Kwakiutl Indians (fig. 15), collected by Mr. James G. Swan. It consists of a blade bent up at the top, beveled only on the upper side, and by its shank lashed to a shouldered cut on the handle. The handle is of oak and is also curved. The two parts are held together by a seizing of twine, and outside of this a wrapping of blue cloth. Length of handle, 8 inches.

Example Cat. No. 150715, in the U. S. National Museum, is a curved knife of the Ainos of Yezo (fig. 16), collected by Mr. R. Hitchcock. The tang of the blade of iron is driven into a wooden handle, which is

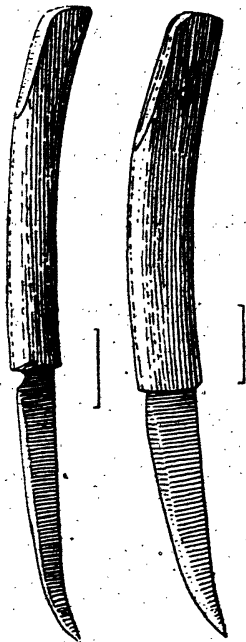


Fig. 16.
CARVER'S KNIVES.
From the Ainos.
Cat. No. 150715, U.S.N.M.