

and every girl among the American aborigines had one or more of these indispensable implements. To conceive of a savage without a knife is to conceive of man before he held the simplest invention in his hand with which to help himself.

The simplest form of knife is a flake or spall of flinty or glassy material knocked from a stone or a core so as to preserve a cutting edge. A few knives from Point Barrow are of this very primitive character, but these really are not within the class here described; the *ulu* as it nowadays exists is a complex affair, consisting of a blade and a handle or grip with or without some form of lashing. The blade is either a thin piece of slate ground to an edge, a bit of cherty or flinty rock chipped to an edge, a scrap of steel or iron from wrecks of whaling vessels, or good blades made and sold to the Eskimo by traders who visit their country (Pl. LII to LXXII).

The handle of this common implement varies greatly in material, form, and finish. In form alone the specimens from each typical area are unique. So much so that one who has handled a great many of them finds no difficulty in relegating a stray example to its proper companionships.

In the matter of attaching the blade to the handle or grip the Eskimo's mother wit has not deserted her. Many of the blades are tightly fitted into a socket or groove of the handle. Boas, who lived among the Cumberland Gulf Eskimo, tells us that glue is made of a mixture of seal's blood, a kind of clay, and dog's hair (Rep. Bur. Ethnol., VI, 526).

Among the western Eskimo it is quite common to cut a hole through the blade and the handle and to fasten the two together by a sewing or lashing of rawhide, whalebone, pine root, or sinew cord. There is one specimen with a grip of a still more primitive character. The solid handle is replaced by a basketwork of spruce root woven around the thick upper portion of the blade (Pl. LXI, fig. 1.) Archæologists are especially asked to note this device, explaining how a grip may be provided by ingenious savages even when a mortise is impracticable.

In this chapter, as in others devoted to the Eskimo, it is found convenient to divide the American Hyperborean region into the following culture areas: Labrador and Ungava (Pl. LV, Fig. 3); Greenland (Pl. LII, LIII, LIV, Fig. 1); Baffin Land (Pl. LIV, Figs. 2 and 3, Pl. LV, Figs. 1 and 2); Mackenzie River District (Pl. LVI and Pl. LVII, Fig. 1); Point Barrow (Pl. LVII, Figs. 2 and 3, Pl. LVIII, Pl. LIX); Kotzebue Sound (Pl. LX and LXI, Figs. 1 and 2); Sledge Island, St. Lawrence Island, and Asiatic side (Pl. LXI, Fig. 3, Pl. LXII, Figs. 1 and 2); Norton Sound and Yukon District (Pl. LXII, Fig. 3, Pl. LXIII, LXIV, LXV, LXVI); Nunivak Island and mainland, and Kuskokvim mouth (Pl. LXVII Figs. 2 and 3); Bristol Bay, Peninsula of Alaska, Kadiak and vicinity (Pl. LXVIII to LXXI, Figs. 1 and 2); Indians of Southeast Alaska (Pl. LXXI, Fig. 3, Pl. LXXII.) Some of these are further divided by types and forms of objects.