

On their arrival at Clowey (a lake about twelve miles over) the 3d of May; they found their captain's brother and associates had only distanced them three days. Here they were joined by several Indians from different quarters, all with an intent of building their canoes at the same place.

It was the 20th before the canoes belonging to Mr. Hearne's party were ready. These vessels are necessarily very slight and simple in their construction, as it is sometimes requisite to carry them more than one hundred miles. Their chief use is to cross lakes and unfordable rivers, after the ice is dissolved; for in winter, both land and water are one solid mass. The Indian employs no other tools in the construction of his vessel, save a hatchet, a knife, a file, and an awl; yet the workmanship is not to be excelled by what the most expert artist could accomplish with every tool in common use.

The shape of the northern Indian canoes bears some resemblance to a weaver's shuttle, but the stern is by far the

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