

The implements with which they kill the sea otter, and other amphibious animals, are harpoons made with bone, with two or more barbs; with a staff of about six or eight feet long, on which is fastened a skin or large bladder, well blown, as a buoy; and darts of about three or four feet long, which they throw with a wooden instrument of about a foot long.

On leaving Prince William's sound, Captain Portlock ranged along the American coast, and steered his course to Portlock's harbour, which he describes. The people here appear to be remarkably indolent, wretched and dirty.

* They have not the use of bladder skin frocks for their dress, but make dresses of the skins of land and sea animals, made up in the same manner as the inhabitants of Cook's river and Prince William's sound. The men do not use the method of flitting their under-lips; but wear their ornaments of beads, shells, &c. at their ears, through which they have small holes bored; they likewise bore a small hole through the gristle of the nose, through which they will sometimes put a needle or nail that they purchase in trade, or may have given them as a present; but the women disfigure themselves in a most extraordinary manner, by making an incision in the under-lip, in which part they wear a piece of wood made in an oval form, a little hollow on each side, and about the thickness of a quarter of an inch; the outer part of the rim is hollowed all round: this curious piece of wood is thrust into the hole, and is secured there by the rim of the lip going round it, fixed in the hollow which is made round the wood. They appear to be worn large or small, in proportion to the age of the women, or perhaps to the number of children they have bore: those that I took to be between thirty and forty years of age, wore them about the size of a small saucer, and the older larger in proportion; one old woman, I remarked particularly, having one as large as a large saucer. The weight of this trencher or ornament weighs the lip down so as to cover the whole of the chin, leaving all the lower teeth and gum quite naked and exposed, which gives them a very disagreeable appearance.—When they eat, it is customary for them to take more in the mouth at a time than they can possibly swallow; when they have chewed it, the lip-piece serves them as a trencher to put it out of their mouths on, and then they take it occasionally. It seems a general practice among the females to wear the wooden ornament in their under lip; the

children have them bored at about two years of age, when a piece of copper wire is put through the hole; this they wear till the age of about thirteen or fourteen years, when it is taken out, and the wooden ornament introduced; its first size is about the width of a button. They likewise have their ears bored, where they wear their ornaments of beads and other things. Their apparel is the same kind as wore by the men; both men and women being very fond of long hair, which is considered as a great ornament. At the death of a friend the hair is cut off pretty short, which seems to be the general mourning of all Indian tribes. The women wear the hair either clubbed behind or tied up in a bunch on the crown of the head; the men wear theirs either loose or tied at the crown. The method of dressing the hair with birds down is only practised by the men. The women in general are hair dressers for their husbands, which office they seem to perform with a great deal of dexterity and good-nature.

* Their persons are in general much about the size of Europeans. The men have a very fierce and savage aspect, which with their dress gives them much the appearance of warriors; their weapons of war are daggers and long pointed spears; they are very easily irritated, and would make very little scruple to kill you when they think themselves injured. More than once I had nearly experienced that fate, from some trifling disagreements in trade; but being pretty well acquainted with their tempers, I guarded as much against them as possible; and on all occasions took care to be well provided for them in case of an attempt, by keeping my pistols ready charged before me.

* Their women, were it not for the filth and nastiness which continually cover them, would be by no means disagreeable; their features in general are pleasing, and their carriage modest. They frequently gave us opportunities to observe their wits to please, particularly when the wooing party were on shore; at these times they would place themselves in a line, and begin singing and making motions all the time the men were at work, and if their drollery happened to please the people, and make them laugh, they all immediately joined in a loud burst of laughter; and when the Indians were not there, they would assist the people in getting wood and taking it to the boats. They were particularly useful in taking the wood from the beach through the surf to the boat, as they were not encumbered with shoes and stockings; and it saved the men from wetting themselves. But if at any time the