

hundred miles to-day. If they are that they are good-nature and

Iago (in South-Bering Bay to which distinctly taking the same name, which Yakutats occupy Sound or Icy their chief village they hold themselves, and resent large islands of Prince of the Stahkin, or channel southward, Fort Tongas on coast. The Sitka are generally to refer only to Chickagoff Island,

other Thlinkets found in Alaska, Columbia. They of them, seen at by their more joining the Stick-the same name, in ous authorities seek another on are closely allied

at it consisted of s," varying with 550, the Hydahs who has given us kets i. to eleven n is more in ac- though the latter d 788 Hydahs. since it was first

tion, Industries, and

The Thlinkets are of medium height, with well-built and sturdy frames; they are dark, not coppery; the hair is black, stiff and straight; the beard is not abundant; the face is broad and often heavy at the base so as to give an inverted egg-shaped oval; the features are distinct and the cheekbones prominent; the lips are full and, among the women, pierced for the labret or *kolosh*; the oblique eye of the Mongol is not rare. These people are warlike in disposition, and strifes between the tribes were of frequent occurrence prior to the Russian conquest. The Russians found much difficulty in gaining a permanent foothold. Old Sitka (New Archangel) was founded in 1799; but very soon afterwards several thousand Sitkans surprised and put to death all the garrison, except a few Russians and Aleuts who were absent when the attack was made and afterward escaped on an English vessel. At about the same time, the settlement on Yakutat Bay was destroyed by the Yakutat Indians; while hunting parties under the leadership of Russians were cut off at many places. But the indomitable Baranoff, the Russian company's agent, soon overcame the Indians and built another New Archangel on the present site of Sitka. No serious difficulty occurred again until 1855, when Sitka was attacked and a conflict ensued which lasted several days and ended in the overthrow of the Indians. Troubles sprang up again when the United States obtained possession of Alaska; but they were in a great measure due to ignorance of the people's habits, and still more to too much haste in acting upon rumour. Since the last collisions, in 1878, a war-vessel has been kept in Sitka harbour; its presence, as well as the great change in the people due to missions and to association with Whites, has prevented further disturbances.

Living in an archipelago, where the islands are as rugged and mountainous as the coast itself, with little fertile land and with a climate not favourable to agriculture, without cattle or places to keep them, the Thlinkets are necessarily hunters and fishermen. The waters of the Alexander archipelago, at the very head of Lynn Channel in N. lat. 59° 10', are full of salmon, cod, halibut, and other edible fish; the mountains on the islands and the coasts teem with bear, deer, mountain goat, and other animals which yield food and clothing; while berries of many kinds grow luxuriantly near the shores. It is not surprising that when these people were discovered by white navigators they were called sluggish and indolent. It has been said that most men are as indolent as circumstances permit; but considering their rapid development, it may be concluded that the Thlinkets of olden time were as industrious as their circumstances permitted. The Thlinket canoes were, and still are, marvels; they are hewn from a single cypress log, and are often ornamented after a wonderful fashion. One of ordinary size holds six persons, but the war boat accommodates fifty. Ordinary boats are numerous at Sitka, where they are drawn up on the shore and in most cases covered carefully.

One who has seen the canoes is not surprised to find the Thlinkets excelling in carving of all sorts; those at the north have only wood and bone on which to exercise their skill, but the Hydahs of Queen Charlotte and Prince of Wales islands have a black slate, which when taken from the quarry is soft and easily worked, though afterwards it becomes