

their heads are formed like a wedge, which arises from the custom of enclosing the heads of infants in boards covered with leather, till they attain that shape. Many of their habits and modes of life differ also much from the interior tribes, as you must have observed by your brother's account. One morning, as we were consulting on the plan of our return to Fort Chepewyan, a young chief, who had accompanied us as a guide, approached our encampment, with joy and astonishment in his countenance, telling us that some of our countrymen had arrived in a huge canoe, which lay behind a point of land in the channel to the south-west of us; and, as a proof of the truth of this story, he showed us an English halfpenny, which he had received for some small fruit. You may believe this intelligence was very agreeable to all our party. The idea of meeting, in this remote part of the world, people whose manners resembled our own, and whose interests were the same, was an inexpressible pleasure.

We soon followed the young chief to the shore, where we saw a boat full of white men, attempting to land; and amongst the busiest of the crew, a negro, in whom Arthur soon recognized his faithful Sancho. The vessel was an American trader, from the port of Salem; and the object of the voyage, the skins of the sea-otter, which they purposed to dispose of at Canton in China. Sancho had invested his little capital in a share of the cargo: and in order to traffic with it to the best advantage, made