

Many evidences of animals, probably used for food, or materials for clothing and implements, were found in the village-sites and burial-places. Bone of the whale was imported from the seacoast, and made into war-clubs. It is possible that it was imported through the Chilcotin country, from the region north of Vancouver Island. This is further emphasized by the absence of clubs of this character along lower Fraser River.

The pecten shell was found, but no olivella-shell objects were seen above Lytton. It seems that the use of dentalium shells was much more extensive in the interior, than it was in prehistoric times in the delta of the Fraser River, and they, like the bone of the whale, probably came from the sea by a northern route. Shells of the fresh-water clam were found in little patches, about three feet in diameter, at the four largest sites at Kamloops, in sufficient numbers to indicate that this animal was used for food.

Vegetable substances include charred pieces of wood from the hearths, and other charred fragments, which had probably been portions of canoes, tent-poles, etc., that were found around graves and in various parts of the village-sites. Pieces of wood were found rolled in copper, and preserved by the action of the copper salts.

Birch bark, charred or preserved by the dryness of the climate, was found in the graves as lining or covering, and in the form of rolls. Probably it was also used for dishes. A kind of gum, that was found in a shell spoon and on a bone handle for a stone knife, resembles that from the fir and pine. Digging-stick handles indicate that roots were dug for food.

Fragments of matting made of cat-tail stalks, fabrics of sagebrush-bark, fibre of cedar and charred bearberries, were found in the graves.

The bones of the whale, and varieties of shell above mentioned, were imported from the seacoast, by intertribal trade, or by expeditions for the purpose; and these formed an important addition to the natural resources of this interior region.