

eastern Siberians. The blanket thrown over the shoulders of the Tlingets can scarcely be said to cover their nakedness, any more than the bird skin costume of the Aleutians, inasmuch as men of either tribe discard every vestige of clothing on the slightest pretext.

As to the Eskimos of the Far West, it is well known that they sleep stark naked. Of the aborigines he calls "Konæges" the Russian Gregory Shelekov writes also that they "wear no shirt, go barefoot and when at home are quite naked",¹ while an old author asserts that, among the Koriaks of Siberia, "a whole Family will lie all naked together under one large Coverlet".² The same writer then goes on to describe others of their habits which had better be explained in Latin than in modern English.

Apropos of vestments made of birds' skins, they are, I believe, characteristic of all the aboriginal Aleutians. In fact, Coxé mentions them no less than ten times in connection with as many native groups of their archipelago and that of the Fox Islanders. Of the latter he writes: "The men wear shirts made of the skins of cormorants, sea-divers and gulls",³ and of others he says: "The natives of the above mentioned islands are very tall and strongly made. They make their cloaths of the skins of birds".⁴

With regard to his "Konæges" Shelekov mentions clothing of similar material,⁵ while the same was used quite close to the Asiatic continent and far from America, namely on an island lying opposite Anadyrskoi Noss (or Cape Anadyr), according to Wrangell, who writes: "This race have a language of their own and make clothes of duck-skins".⁶

Now the Tsetsaut, a North Pacific coast subtribe of the Dénés, and, I believe, the Carriers, whose habitat is Central British Columbia, claim that they formerly wore an identical sort of clothing.⁷

According to Petitot, the Loucheux's, original enemies with whom they parted in course of time to reach their present quarters, wore wooden helmets. But Coxé tells us that, in the spring of 1754, the Russians discovered an island which "seemed to be opposite to Katyskoi Noss, in the peninsula of Kamtchatka," whose inhabitants wore "wooden

¹ *Ibid.*, *ibid.*

² S. Muller, *ubi supra*, p. IX.

³ "Account of the Russian Discoveries", p. 197.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 75. See also Sarytschew, "Account of a Voyage of Discovery", pp. 8, 18; also S. Muller, "Voyages from Asia to America", pp. XXII, XXIV.

⁵ *Op. cit.*, p. 37.

⁶ "Narrative of an Expedition to the Polar Sea", p. 414; London, 1844.

⁷ Tenth Report on the North-Western Tribes of Canada, p. 560.