

the keys were stationary, and each represented a frog, of which the eyes were of lead. A better specimen of workmanship I never saw before nor since.

This same family had many curious images exquisitely carved out of wood and bone; their boxes and wooden kettles were inlaid with select shells and pearls gathered on the shores. These men had been to the capital for a few months, assisting in blacksmiths' shops. The majority of males and females are but slightly clad, their covering being a blanket, obtained from the Hudson's Bay Company. This is loosely thrown over their shoulders, more for the sake of warmth than from any sense of decency. The majority of them have a great dislike to hard labour. Sometimes, rather than take the trouble to go and hunt or fish for food, they will remain for several days without eating anything in the shape of food, and it is only when they are exhausted that they will crawl into their canoes and go fishing, existing for the most part on halibut, salmon, and shell fish, of which there are immense quantities to be found in small round cavities in the rocks on the shore all round the island. Crabs they do not like, though some of them eat them in quantities. There is a kind of spider-like crab frequently met with on the island (never seen in any other part of the globe); these the Indians will not touch.

At the close of the fishing season they dry the fish in the sun for food during the winter months; but, being such gluttons, they manage to run short several weeks before the commencement of the fishing season in the following spring, and have recourse to roots or bulbs, which they find a little way in the interior of the bush. Fish eaten in its dried state is very hard and tasteless; hence they dip the pieces in fish-oil, as we sometimes do bread in treacle or honey; and if they are without this oil they dip the pieces before eating into salt water, which certainly improves the taste. Many of the tribes collect large quantities of berries, which they also dry for the winter's provisions, but even with this additional stock they are always completely out of food in the spring.

Their personal appearance is not attractive. Inter-marriage between the Indians and the whites is not uncommon. The offspring of the female half-breeds, especially, are really extraordinarily handsome, and many of these, if well dressed, would vie with the handsomest ladies seen any day in Regent Street during the fashionable season. These are facts incontestable to those travellers who have visited the half-breeds of British Columbia, and they pride themselves on their good