

worn which formed the most conspicuous part of the prehistoric Carriers' wearing apparel.

But it is to the habitations of both races, to their homes and their domestic customs that I wish especially to draw attention. I fell lately on a description of the Aino hut in an odd number of the *Missions Catholiques** by a bishop who was a pioneer among the missionaries to that people, and I deem it so suggestive that I cannot refrain from quoting it almost in its entirety.

"Nothing is simpler than an Aino cabin", wrote Mgr. Berlioz†. "Imagine the framework of a little roof laid on forked posts about the height of a man; reeds are used to fill in the vacant spaces and serve as walls. The habitation has three openings: a door, a common window and a sacred window.... The first of the two windows, cut in the southern wall, has nothing uncommon in its composition. The sacred window occupies the middle of the wall opposite the inside door. It is opened to the east and, as a rule, it allows one or several bear skulls to be seen stuck on forked posts...This window is for worship exclusively"...

"The only outside doorway gives access to a vestibule facing the sacred window. Therein firewood is piled up, millet is thrashed and the dog admitted as a favor when the weather is too bad; but on no account will he be permitted to pass the threshold of the inner door, which privilege is reserved for the cat".

"Savages as they are, the Ainos have a sense of dignity! One would hardly suspect it who passes from the vestibule to the dwelling place: it is gloomy, smoky, encumbered and of a disgusting dirtiness. Mats are disposed all around the fireplace and invite people to warm themselves; but the place every one is to occupy is strictly defined. To the left as you enter are to be found the members of the household, the womenfolk nearest to the door, while common visitors squat on the opposite side. The place facing the doorway is reserved for distinguished

* An illustrated weekly periodical published at Lyons, France.

† "Missions Catholiques", 29 September, 1893.