

Indian type with that of the inhabitants of northeastern Asia. All travellers and ethnologists, Wrangell, Peter Dobell, J. Bush, Latham, Geo. Simpson and others have noticed it.

This physical resemblance is so striking that, when on the 5th of September, 1741, a certain Lieutenant Waxel, a pioneer among the pioneer explorers of America from Asia, had tried in vain to hold intercourse with the first native Americans he saw, he ordered three of his men to land and make for the strangers. Among the three men was a Koriack who acted as his interpreter. Then the chronicler of his voyage (who wrote just one hundred and fifty years ago) remarks that "it has been observed everywhere that the Tschuktschian and Korjak interpreters did not understand the language of these people; but they were nevertheless very serviceable as conductors, being bold and looked upon by the Americans as the same with themselves".¹

The personal ornaments, the labret, nose and ear pendants, of the North Americans were also prevalent among several Asiatic tribes.

Both divisions of the human family are remarkable for the quasi-absence of facial hairs, and I have described² the way the Dénés used to pluck out the few that nature would grow on their upper lip and chin. Now, an old author writes of the Koriacks of Siberia: "They are beardless, like the Laplanders, Samojeds and Ostiaks; for, in the first Place, they have naturally very little Hair about the Mouth, and what little they have they pluck out as do also the Jakuti, Tungusii and Kal-mucks".³

The habitations of the semi-sedentary Dénés, such as the Carriers and their neighbours in the west, have likewise their exact counterpart in Siberia. "The Jakutian habitations are of two kinds", writes Wrangell. "In summer they are Urosses, which are light circular tents formed of poles and covered with birch-bark, which they strip from the trees in large pieces . . . At the approach of winter, they occupy their warm Yourtes [compare with the Carrier synonym *Yarh*]. These are cottages formed of thin boards".⁴

¹ S. Muller, "Voyages from Asia to America", p. XLVI.

² "Notes on the Western Dénés", p. 138.

³ S. Muller, *op. cit.*, p. VIII.

⁴ "Narrative of an Expedition to the Polar Sea", p. 24. The houses of the Tusks (Tchuktschis) are called *yarang* according to Hooper. A little particularity in connection with those aborigines is, I believe, all the more worthy of mention as I have otherwise been unable to find the least resemblance between their language and that of my Dénés. Hooper writes: "We were much attracted and amused by their expressions of astonishment at any new wonder. Kah—kah—kah—was the universal ejaculation of surprise" ("The Tents of the Tusk", p. 21). Now this is precisely the interjection to which the Carriers resort when they want to express surprise. "*Kah 'kah 'kah* they exclaim, meaning: Now, is not that wonderful!"