

they obtained their winter supply of salmon. Fraser mentions that at intervals rude stages had been built from which the native fishermen wielded their hand nets with much dexterity and success. He also noticed a net of large size by means of which deer and larger animals were captured. A little later he refers to "rugs made from the wool of Aspai or wild goat and from dog's hair, which are as good as the wool rugs found in Canada." The dogs of the village, it was observed, had been lately shorn.

Then at another place, we catch a glimpse of "an excellent house, 46x32, and constructed like American frame houses; the planks are three or four inches thick, each plank overlapping the adjoining one a couple of feet; the posts which are very strong and rudely carved, receive the cross beams. The walls are eleven feet high and covered with a slanting roof." We may marvel that in the midst of difficulties and dangers Fraser found time to note such things. As to the natives themselves they were "stoutly built and some of the men handsome," but the women outwardly were not attractive. The Indians volunteered

the information that white men had ascended the river as far as the Bad Rock. On John Stuart's map, previously referred to, at a point which we should judge to be a little above Yale, we read the following legend: "To this place the white men have come from the sea." Who these adventurers were, we cannot say, nor shall we ever know now. It is scarcely likely, however, that white men had previously visited this region.

Proceeding, Fraser met Indians who were extremely civil and obliging, so much so in fact that their sincerity was doubted. Here again were observed some of those dog hair blankets, which are today so rare. The art of making them has been lost and even the peculiar dogs, whose hair was used in their manufacture, have apparently disappeared from off the face of the earth. Perhaps the disappearance of the dogs may be accounted for by the fact that their hair lost its value as soon as the blankets of the fur-traders made their appearance in the country. The breed, no longer maintained in its purity, no doubt lost its identity amongst the hosts of curs that abounded in every village.

(To be Continued)


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