

choose and come to an agreement. They frequently bestow presents on each other, in order to ascertain each other's minds, for the acceptance of these gifts is a sure mark of their consent. The husband generally takes his wife among his own relations, where she spends several weeks, and is entertained with kindness and hospitality." "If the husband be a hunter, which is generally the case, for the greater part of them procure their subsistence either by hunting or fishing, every domestic charge is devolved on the wife; still there are some who attend to agriculture and the rearing of cattle. Nothing can exceed the modesty which both the bride and bridegroom assume on the night they are wedded; and I have also been told that a separation frequently takes place a week or two after they are married, by reason of her desire to live four weeks in perfect continence. This, however, is not generally true, for I observed that chastity was very often violated among them before they are legally united."

Barrow, the author of "Travels in China," says: "The Mantchoo Tatars are scarcely distinguishable from the Chinese by external appearances; the Chinese are rather taller, and of a more slender and delicate frame than the Tatars, who are in general, short, thick and robust. The small eye, elliptical at the end next the nose, is a predominating feature in the cast of both the Chinese and Tatar countenances, and they have the same high cheek-bones and pointed chins. The native color, both of Chinese and Tatars seems to be that tint between a fair and a dark complexion, which we distinguish by the word *brunet* or *brunette*; and the shades of their complexion are deeper or lighter, according as they have been more or less exposed to the influence of climate."

Klaproth, and other writers, mention the fact that the Tungus, and especially the Tshapojirs, were wont to tattoo their faces after the prevailing Siberian fashion, with bars or straight lines on the cheek and forehead. In the matter of valour, the Tungus seems generally to have been the man of the receding area, save in China where the Mantchu is supreme. Adelung refers to the Mantchus of the Ssolan as a worthy and valiant people. All who have had to do with the Mantchu officials of China, civil or military, regard them as the *ne plus ultra* of falsehood and low cunning. Gutzlaff has characterized the Tungus tribes as deficient in valour; and Wood, in his "Uncivilized Races," describes them as good-natured but full of deceit. Yet Sauer gives an instance of the Tungusian's fidelity to his word. "An unchristened Tungoose went into one of the churches at Yakutsk, placed himself before the painting of Saint Nicholas, bowed very respectfully, and laid down a number of rich skins, consisting of black and red foxes, sables, squirrels,