

Great Ocean Currents, which would sweep them away to America. Those laws have now been abrogated; an account of them may be found in Perry's Expedition.

The evidences of any local influences resulting from a contact with the Asiatic nations are very slight, and all that has come under my knowledge in this search can be stated in few words. Of the Aleuts, Davidson says, in *Alaska Coast Pilot*, p. 52, "The Aleuts are very distinct in their looks, manners, language and customs, from all the other Indians of the northwest, and many of them bear a close resemblance to the less marked of the Japanese, so much so that the question at once arises whether this people has not been derived from cast-away or shipwrecked inhabitants of Japan, carried thither by the Kamtschatka branch of the great Japanese stream; but it is not our province to investigate the problem in this place."

An agent of the Alaska Commercial Company, who brought down the three Japanese from Atka on the "Hutchinson," said they had no difficulty in making their wants known to the Aleuts, for they had many words in common. This gentleman had resided long at the northwest, and spoke the Aleutian language.

Wilkes also noticed among some of the tribes of Indians he visited on the Straits of Fuca, the presence of some simple acts resembling the Chinese, such as a style of weaving rush mats, the conical hats, &c., and he speaks of the presence of the "oblique" eye among the coast tribes only, and a variety of complexions in certain localities, as suggesting a kinship to the Asiatic nations. I may add, however, that in San Francisco, where house-servants, both of Chinese and Indian extraction, are common, it is often