## PETROGLYPHS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

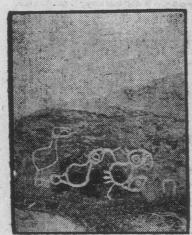
By Dr. C. F. Newcombe.

etchings made by F. Shephard, C. E., at Sproat's lake, are of great interest. They have been reported more than once, but no sketches or pictures have hitherto been made public. Mr. Sproat called attention to them in his "Scenes and Studies of Savage Life," in the late the state of the save higher and they were asymptod, and there is a very large surface covered. sixties, and they were examined and there is a very large surface covered sketched by Dr. F. Boas in 1889. J. W. with rock pictures, several of which Laing also refers to them in his article on "Exploring in Northern Jungles,"



HAIETLICK WINDING ROUND TO-

also, quoting Dr. Boas. The latter was light-keeper, a set of castings was obton opinion that they were the work of an extinct tribe of Indians, who were known to inhabit the lake a continuous. known to inhabit the lake a century Victoria. The figures in this case are and a half ago.



NEAR COMOX.

known at Alberni, but their picture shows a much smaller area of sculptured rock and fewer figures.

The West Coast, however, is not the only region containing these early works of art. At Nanaimo, near the mouth of the river, is a rock face, near- are of quite recent origin, having been



AT SKIDEGATE.

with numerous appendages along the back that are unknown in any living



The excellent photographs of the rock | animal. These were photographed and



HAIETLICK, ETCHED ON WHALE HARPOON.

had, unfortunately, to be removed by blasting, when the lighthouse was first

established there.

The attention of the writer was call in the Overland Monthly for November, 1897, quoting Dr. Boas. The latter was light-keeper, a set of castings was ob-Messrs. Bolton and Laing themselves all can be made out, are intended to represent the sun, stars, whales, fish, birds, and various supernatural creatures having some resemblance to human beings.

Higher up the east coast, at Fort Ru-pert, is a set of shallow carvings on the rocks between tide marks. Accerding to the Indians some of these



HAIETLICK, THE LIGHTENING SNAKE.

mouth of the river, is a rock face, nearly horizontal, covered with the figures
of fish and of various monsters in outline resembling wolves and lizards, but

Mr. Hunt so

According to the late Mr. Hunt so

Going off on a hunting excedition in

According to the late Mr. Hunt, so



AT TWANA RES. RVATION, WASH-INGTON, U. S. A.

belonging to the Nanaimo tribe was the cannibal society, after which he was eaten by them on the spot where the carving now is. Another is the takim or gigantic sea-monster.

About a mile from Skidegate, on the writer was shown in 1900 a boulder with shallow grooved carving, representing human heads, but the Indians could give no explanation it it. Similar carv ngs were also seen in the Haida coun try just below Copper mountain Alaska, a year later. These, too, had no interpreter, but resembles several specimens seen on the beach at Fort Wrangel. It is possible that they were made by the Tlingit also, as these peo ple were displaced by the Haida with-in a century and a half or so, from the south end of Prince of Wales Island. Similar works have been reported from Washington at Lake Chelan, at The Dalles, in Oregon, (a specimen of which may be seen at the Museum of the Historical Society at Portland) and lastly from many places in California. It seems impossible to decipher these inscriptions satisfactorily as it is not likely that anyone except the makers and those living at the time the work was done, could tell what was mean by them. There are always to be found volunteers ready to supply a story, especially if payment is forthcoming for it, but unless means of checking and corroborating such evidence be found it is of no scientific value.

Nevertheless the short note made by the late Rev. F. Eels, a pioneer mis-sionary amongst the tribes of the State of Washington, may suggest one of the ideas actuating the makers of these

He reported that there was at Eneti, on the Twana Reservation, a represen-



tation of a thunder-bird, carved on a is from a drawing by the late Judge symbol last mentioned, it is as marked

basaltic rock. The Indians told him that if the rock were shaken it would cause rain, probably because the thunder-bird was angry. The outline sketch standing at Clayoquot when I was there standing at Clayoquot when I was there and scaly tail of the beaver. copied from his figure shows a conventional head, the circles stand for the eyes and the wedge between them a large whale harpoon in my own col-



ON ROCK AT YELLOW ISLAND.

is constantly associated with the thun-der-bird in the minds of the natives of the West Coast of the island. It is called the Haiatilsk by the Clayoquots and Hahektoak by the Neah Bay peo ple. It is said that when the thunder-bird sees and wishes to kill a whale, he hurls the Hajatitsk at it, which spears the body of the whale like a harpoon. This snake has many wonderful attributes which would occupy too much space in narrated in detail, but the fol-

According to the late Mr. Hunt, so long attached to the Hudson Bay fort at this place, this carving was made in memory of an occurrence observed by himself and Mr. Moffatt in early days During the winter ceremonial a slave During the winter ceremonial a slave pent. They called it Haietlick, and said it was very scarce. They offered twenty sea-otter skins for a specime for "if they should have but the least piece of this animal in their boat they them is deemed one of the greatest honors. Indeed, a piece of this magic animal insures success at all times and on all occasions."

The accompanying illustrations will mouth and were placed on the front remains were a number of large figures chable a reader to judge for himself of the hat. The lower part stood for pairted in red. Some were thunderwhether or no the Sproat Lake artist the head, of which the eye and the intended to give a representation of hooked ear are the conspicuous fea-while a larger part were of mythical this marvellous beast. A group of three tures. In all of these figures it will be beings. There was no standing room similarly marked in the Napaimo also noticed that the ear is an essential for a camera, so we were unable to do

panying illustration of a thunder-bird on a totem-pole lately collected at Clayoquot, will show how this symbol has been derived, marked with an X.

One of the figures seen in the Sproat Chicago, which could only be used by Inspect of a certain family. The burial place consisting of the naturally Lake set has, in some respects, a close resemblance to a mythical snake which

metimes had to illustrate, as well as they were able, the spirits with which

sually seem to have been those with

which they had become acquainted by

difficult work to peck out any particular

design with the aid of a pointed stone

Before leaving the subject mention should be made of the pictographs found in all parts of the province, no-

and details in black paint are sometime

added. An unusually fine specimen was

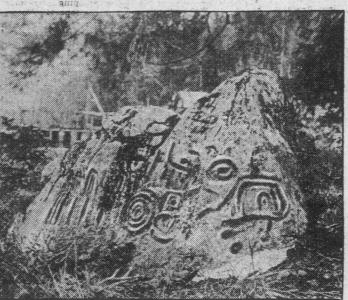
reported to Captain Walbran a few years ago by the light-keeper at Pointer Island as existing on a vertical rock

face on the northside of Port John, not

far from Bella Bella. Captain Walbran

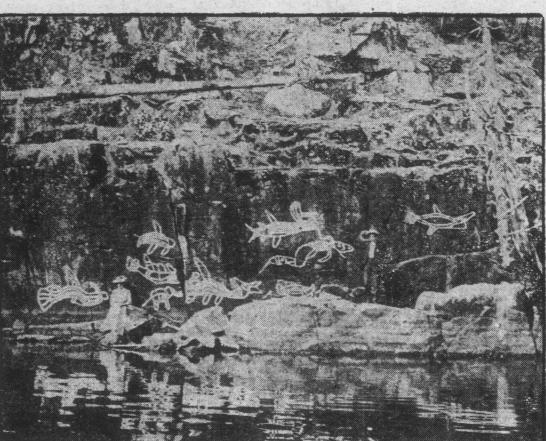
visited the place soon after, and at his

of harder material.



AT COPPER INLET ALASKA

upper two parts stand for the nose and terraced cliff. Above the few human closely resembles it. The outline sketch | part and in the highly conventionalized | more than take a few sketches.



CARVINGS AT ALBERNI

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West Co

The Agent's Provi The Indian agent for the overnment for the West rell. visits the villages regul as. by virtue of his office, a solute powers in Indian affai In the case of the lost scho he Indian department neg ttlement with the owners lian hunters.

The gross amount, when as was paid to the department disbursed to the heirs.
The question of determ levolved upon the Indian agen brecautionary measures to prolestruction of the money. found it necessary to be me in warning the Indians tha coming to them in any way the medium of the government m case be destroyed. Thus the house has been spared after bereavement because some ex f Dominion money was rep

The inducements offered t ers have been bettered year until the owners think a limit eached, and yet each year th of getting crews becomes in

Sealers Get Hunter Captain Searle of the Libb crew at Friendly Cove "signe vember last. But he lay month of February in the co for his hunters to come on be The advance, which used per man, has grown to \$60, be paid in cash.

The "cuitus potlatch" a

\$5 is paid when the canoe By way of advances the ca distributed some \$1,500 and crew who were under the of the Merchants' Shipping who might legally be at an seized as deserters, sat on and gambled for the steadily

went on board and stayed unt tain opened up the slop chest him a pair of trousers at \$4.50 the trousers to Charley for \$ re-entered the game, and morning had \$300.

Generally at night a deputa the captain in the store, and ous Chinook demanded larger that the "cultus potlatch" spaid in cash, not in got
"Maudie" should be engaged
and finally that the rate per
raised \$1.

In support of the last dem critical moment an Indian duced who had come from with the news that a schoon oquot Sound had raised the One who has not heard a dian arguing a case such as not heard oratory.

And here we heard a fine

to the work of Father Braba answer of the orator to an contradiction of Captain Sea "Hesquoit Indians, Cathol halo cultus wawa" (no wort In an early stage of the di Monkey, who alleged that he twice refused "advances," sk to Ahouset. It was gravely that the Quadra be sent after Nor were the captain's trought when he got his crew away The spring trip along the generally profitable, but is

. In June the captain was ba cove, and again there was to get the crew aboard. V hoisted and anchor hove shore tain was waiting for the canoe, when a puff of win schooner dragging, and before could be gained, the Libbie to

The damage was trivial and paired in one tide, but the M Shipping Act was now in every the other side. The Indians sall in a damaged vessel, and tain was forced to send the Victoria and take out another

"Pitlamping." Two practices are observe tourist along the coast, whi well be made the subject of mental interference. The first is "pitlamping," by both Indian and white hur low tide the animals resort beach, the deer to eat seaweed animals for clams and mus night the light from a head a canoe can be seen reflect eyes of the beasts, and the shoot without knowing what lar animal they are so

lar animal they are firing a the hunter is not in want of deer so killed are left on the if wounded, to die in the ed woods. Moreover, in the dari animals hit and not killed can seldom be found, and so The second is the stripping

bark. For ages the squaws h ped cedar trees for the inner which they make mats. In c the woods one seems never yond the scene of their opera dar constitutes perhaps 25 p standing timber, and scarce a escaped, while some have be four times in 100 years, an taken from each quarter of The damage amounts to millio lars, and is still going on. (It is most desirably that the iars, and is still going on.
(It is most desirable that the should be encouraged in indubales of silk would be inexpermaterial in comparison with bark. The Indian departments of the consider whether some well consider whether some the purpose, so that, without they might be forbidden to d

His Ignorance. Different stages in educati