

curate description of them as given by that able old navigator John Davies, in the year 1586.

“The people are of good stature, well proportioned, with small slender hands and feet, broad visages, small eyes, wide mouths, the most part unbearded, great lips and close teathed; they are much given to bleed, and therefore stop their noses with deer’s hair, or that of an elan. They are very simple in their conversation, but marvellously given to thieving, especially of iron; they did eat all their meat raw.”

On the morning of the 23d we remained nearly beset; yet although there was scarcely an opening amongst the ice, the indefatigable Eskimaux again paid us a visit. One solitary canoe first reached us, and the owner finding no competitors, and that he was likely to have the market to himself, with great shrewdness exhibited only one article at a time, and kept at such a distance from the ship, as to preclude all possibility of our overlooking his cargo. He however trifled so long as to lose all his customers, and was quite in despair on seeing several more canoes coming off. Every thing he possessed was now drawn from his boat and pressingly offered, and amongst other things he produced a fine unicorn’s horn, which, of course, readily found a purchaser.

Two large Oōmiäk’s (women, or family boats) a length came alongside, filled with women and young children, and steered, as we had before observed to be the case, each by an old man. These people were no sooner alongside than they commenced singing and dancing with great vehemence; and to my surprise an old blind woman joined in the merriment with as great apparent delight as her companions. In this boat was a man who had lost one of his arms. Several single canoes hung alongside by ropes which were thrown to them; and in this state, with a fresh breeze, we ran until we came amongst some heavy ice, when our visitors were warned to take precautions against being jammed. Such, however, was their ardour for barter that we could neither induce them to move, or to p

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