

Discovery of a North-West Passage.

39

always Coast along and keep near to the Shore, June
to be ready if a Sea rises, and the Wind freshens 1747.
to put ashore; they go in their Canoes mostly
with their Feet naked. When they step ashore,
they unload the Canoe, and draw it out of the
Water upon the Land or Mud, protected from
the Wind, laying it Bottom uppermost.

These are the only Vessels they can make use
of in these long Voyages, for the Falls and
Shoals would be a Hindrance to larger Vessels, and
they would be difficult to manage in rapid Streams,
whereas these Canoes are so light, that they are
easily managed in the rapid Streams, and are
easily transported from one Place to another.

These Canoes are different from those of the
Eskemaux as the purposes for which they are built
are different, the one being only for the passing
of Rivers, the other for crossing Seas, and also
for Fishing in such Seas.

Both these Kind of Canoes, the *Eskemaux*
Canoes and those of these *Indians* were in Use
amongst the Antients. Those like the former were
made of Branches of Osier, and cover'd with *
Skin; such were those used by the *Lusitanians*,
and the People of our own Island upon the
Ocean, the *Henetes* or *Venetians* in the Gulph, by
the *Affyrians* on the *Tyger* and the *Euphrates*, the
Ethiopiens on the *Nile*. A Species of the other
we find used by the *Egyptians*, and by many
People

* Strabo lib. 3. Lucam lib 4.