

is inserted. The bone is about two inches in length and three-sixteenths of an inch in diameter. Only the old Indians have their noses pierced, and they seldom use the ring, except when in full dress for the dance or the feast.

PHYSIQUE.

At the present time both the men and women are physically remarkable. The men attract attention by their size and apparent strength, and by the fulness and agreeableness of their features. Some of them are six feet four inches tall, and their bodies are developed in perfect proportions. They are expert seamen, and can sail their buoyant canoes in a storm that would be dangerous for ships. The women share the good qualities of the men. Some of them are tall, while others are under the average stature of womankind. They are exceedingly strong; they cut wood, sail and paddle canoes, and work as hard as the men. They have handsome and agreeable features, and are not so dark as the men. In intellectual power and mental faculties, the Haidas excel the ordinary class of Indians on the Coast. If compared with other Indians in British Columbia and Alaska, they will be placed at the head in respect to physique and mental activity. They are neither stupid nor foolish. When asked to think of things outside their own intellectual world they are quite ready to acknowledge themselves ignorant and willing to be taught. The young people are eager to be taught any fresh subject, and also evince a determination to master their books.

DRESS.

The women dress in prints, and not a few of them wear bonnets and hats. Before the arrival of the whites their clothing was scanty. They wore petticoats made of the roots of cedar and spruce. The men now purchase good tweed clothes, and the women indulge in the luxury of prints, ginghams, and sometimes silks. Old men are occasionally seen early in the morning wrapped in their blankets, but they soon have to dress decently in order to escape the ridicule of their grown-up sons and daughters. Girls wear a cotton dress only, and the little boys run about in shirts, unless they are going to see white men, when they dress specially for the occasion. The men and women seem to pay considerable attention to their personal adornment. They are proud of the mass of brilliant, coarse, black hair, with which nature has provided them. The men cut their hair periodically, and endeavour to cultivate moustaches and whiskers in imitation of the whites. The older men have not a single hair on their faces. The women dress their hair in braids or knots at the back of the head, and in bangs, for the Hudson's Bay Company has supplied them with curling tongs. Their glass beads are giving place to silver and gold ornaments, and will soon be valuable as curiosities,