

fasten with hard resin. They had no houses, but slept under the blue heavens, sometimes on mats of bullrushes interwoven, and sometimes on the leaves of trees. They always carry with them all their goods, such as their food and green tobacco, which is strong and good for use. They appear to be a friendly people, but they have a great propensity to steal, and are exceedingly adroit in carrying away whatever they take a fancy to."

In latitude  $40^{\circ} 48'$ , where the savages brought very fine oysters to the ship, Hudson describes the country in the following manner: "It is as pleasant a land as one need tread upon; very abundant in all kinds of timber suitable for shipbuilding, and for making large casks or vats. The people had copper tobacco pipes, from which I inferred that copper might naturally exist there; and iron likewise, according to the testimony of the natives, who, however, do not understand preparing it for use."

Hudson also states that they caught in the river all kinds of fresh-water fish with seines, and young salmon and sturgeon.<sup>1</sup> In latitude  $42^{\circ} 18'$ , he landed.<sup>2</sup> "I sailed to the shore," he says, "in one of their canoes with an old man, who was the chief of a tribe consisting of forty men and seventeen women; these I saw there in a house well constructed of oak bark, and circular in shape, so that it had the appearance of being built with an arched roof. It contained a great quantity of maize or Indian corn and beans of last year's growth, and there lay near the house, for the purpose of drying, enough to load three ships, besides what was growing in the fields. On our coming into the house, two mats were spread out to sit upon, and immediately some food was served in well-made wooden bowls, two men were also dispatched at once with bows and arrows in quest of game, who soon after brought in a pair of pigeons which they had shot. They likewise killed a fat dog, and skinned it in great haste with shells which they had got out of the water. They supposed that I would remain with them for the night, but I returned after a short time on board the ship. The land is the finest for cultivation that I ever in my life set foot upon (*Is het schoonste landt om de bouwen als ick oyt myn leven met voeten betrat*), and it also abounds in trees of every description. The natives are very good people, for when they saw that I would not remain, they supposed that I was afraid of their bows, and taking the arrows, they broke them in pieces and threw them into the fire."

<sup>1</sup> Often called "Albany Beef."

<sup>2</sup> The present city of Hudson is in latitude  $42^{\circ} 14'$ , near where the adventurous navigator went on shore. The time occupied by him in exploring the river was from September 13 to October 3.