

otherwise» — John Murdoch expressly affirms the same; in speaking of the Point Barrow Eskimo and their traditional tales he says: «The expression: when all men wore one labret —, means: a very long time ago —, as the single labret has long been out of fashion and a few only are preserved as heirlooms or amulets».

Nevertheless we cannot but wonder at the perseverance with which the natives have still clung to the same ancient custom which has braved the arctic winters of Point Barrow and is still fashionable at the Mackenzie also. IN THE CENTRAL REGIONS, HOWEVER, IT MUST AT LAST HAVE SUCCUMBED. In Greenland, strange to say, it is not known, as far as I remember, even from the folklore.

As concerns HAIR-DRESSING a sort of tonsure is generally used by men in the West and at the Mackenzie R. beyond which it is sporadic, f. i. on the coasts of Hudson's Strait and of Smith's Sound. As for women hair dressing begins in the West with DEPENDENT BRAIDS and ends in Greenland with having the whole rolled up in a single STRAITLY TIED TUFT the thickness perpendicular position of which is of the highest importance among the objects of the toilet. This tuft makes its first appearance east of Point Barrow, but here combined with the plaits, and hereupon it continues alternately in this way and again varying with the use of braids alone, until at length in Greenland the tuft becomes the absolute custom.

Finally the use of MASKS for dancing festivals and especially connected with religious ceremonies is developed in a high degree among the Alaska Eskimo and like the labrets links them to the Indians. But also like the latter it disappears towards the East.