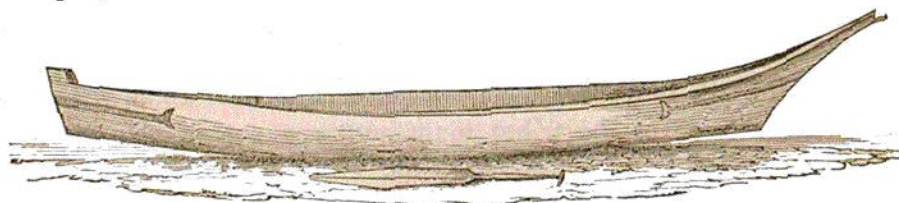


The colour of the younger natives is almost white, so much so as to show the blush on the cheek; and some of the women would with difficulty be distinguished in colour from those of European race. The women are to be seen weaving mats, after the Chinese fashion, of bullrushes (*Scirpus lacustris*), which they place side by side and fasten together at intervals. These are used, as has been stated, to cover the framework of their lodges.

Instead of the silver tube which has been spoken of, the women have a white bone stuck through the cartilage of their noses. This is kept bright, and may be said to be the only clean thing about their persons. The whole burden of domestic occupation is thrown upon them, for the men are to be seen lounging about the whole day in the sun, and spend their nights in gambling.

The canoes of this region differ from any thing we had seen on the voyage. They are made from a single trunk, and have a shape that may be considered elegant, and which is preserved from change by stretching or warping by means of thwarts. The sides are exceedingly thin, seldom exceeding three-fourths of an inch, and they are preserved with great care, being never suffered to lie exposed to the sun, for fear of rents and cracks. When these do occur, the canoe is mended in a very ingenious manner; holes are made in the sides, through which withes are passed and pegged in such a way that the strain will draw it tighter; the withe is then crossed, and the end secured in the same manner. When the tying is finished, the whole is pitched with the gum of the pine. This is neatly done, and answers the purpose well.



CANOE OF OREGON INDIANS.

Although the natives we saw at Port Discovery appeared to be a peaceable race, the neighbouring tribes are frequently at war, and spoke of scalping, and other exploits, as practised by our own aborigines.

Apprehensive that difficulties similar to those we met with in the Feejee Group might possibly occur with these Indians, I deemed it expedient to issue the following order.