

number, were without food and clothing, with no means to return to their country, and offered to surrender unconditionally. They were supplied with food, and conveyed in the vessels to Victoria, where they procured canoes and returned home, promising never to come back. Since then, the white settlements of the sound have never been molested by these marauders of the north, though the Indians have occasionally suffered from similar hostile incursions. Now everything is changed. Yearly, scores of these long war canoes enter the sound, but on a mission of peace, the tribes of British Columbia and Alaska gathering there to pick the hops of the Puyallup valley.

The skill of these tribes is also shown in the carving of numerous objects. For this purpose they generally use the handsome red cedar of those high latitudes. A multitude of utensils and appliances are fashioned by them, but their greatest work is the carving of heraldic columns, or totem sticks, which stand in front of their houses, as is shown in the engraving on page 872. The Haidas are the most advanced in this art, carving, also, in stone, silver, gold, copper and

iron. These heraldic columns have great significance. The Alaskan tribes are divided into families, and each has a totem stick, erected in front of the habitation of the head of the family. The size of the stick and the amount of carving thereon indicate the wealth and importance of the possessor. They vary from two to five feet in thickness, and are often sixty feet high. Each family has its symbol, or crest, and when the families intermarry, these symbols are blended, or independently carved on the same stick, causing many curious combinations and interminglings of devices. These totem sticks often cost \$2,000.00, and a chief who has asserted his importance by having one made, generally gives a "potlatch," in which blankets, arms, and valuables of all kinds are lavishly bestowed upon the assembled multitude, the donor not infrequently impoverishing himself by his liberality. Miniatures of these wooden totems are carved in stone by the Haidas, the work being most delicate and beautiful, and many Alaska tourists bring them, or the cheaper wooden carvings, away with them as curious and interesting souvenirs of their trip.

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