QUEER MEN OF AINU.

STORY OF A JOURNEY TO A SEMI-BARBARIC LAND.

Where Women Wear Mustaches and the Men Are Covered With Hair—They Never Wash Themselves — Have No Religion.

The "Hairy Ainu of Japan" is the subject of an interesting article in London Black and White. The writer is A. Henry Savage Landor. Mr. Landor says: "When I reached Hadokate I had no plans. I wanted to see the Ainu, and I wanted to see the best of them, but nobody could tell me exactly where to find them. Of course, everybody knew that there were some on Volcano Bay, but being in such close proximity to Japanese villages I somehow fancied that their type could not be very pure. I decided to go right around the island and see for myself, and with a large stock of painting materials, but no provisions, no map, no compass I set out one rainy morning, quite alone for the journey.

The Ainu generally live in the immediate neighborhood of the sea or up some large river where fish is abundant. Those up the Takachi river I found to be the finest and purest in Yezo, as the Japanese have not reached so far in the interior of the island. I suffered much in this expedition up the Takachi, for two long days having to find my way through treacherous swamps and a thick jungle formed of high reeds. Black and yellow bears are plentiful in that part. It was hard work for my two horses and myself, more especially myself, as I had come across no houses and had found no food. I was well repaid for it, however, as, where the ground begins its incline about 50 miles from the coast, the jungle stopped and I reached an Ainu village called Yamakoshiro.

The villagers were much more hairy than any I had seen before. Men and women, almost entirely naked, squatted down amidst filth, and being driven nearly mad by the "abu" (a huge horse fly) and the "black flies," they took just like a large family of monkeys.

I heard of a large village, Frishikobets farther up and I reached it the next evening. Here, too, I saw some wonderful types. Covered with thick hair and flowing black beard, they were extremely picturesque. One day's journey from Hashikpets I discovered the Oloptch Mountain with the Hirisha (hot springs) on its northeast side, and also the mountains of Shikarubets-Ooc-ush, which, translated into English, means "the white cliff by the river."

The Ainu are far from being clean people. They never wash themselves, being in this a great contrast to their neighbors, the Japanese. The Ainu live entirely by fishing and hunting. They cannot be said to have any religion but they show a predilection for the bear, salmon, mountains, water, the moon and the sun. Drops of wine are sprinkled in honor of the sun during their libations. The Ainu drink these themselves in furs and garments made of elm tree bark. In winter, however, they use only bear skins, and wear leggings of spots made from the skin of salmon. The chief of a village is generally more gaudily attired than ordinary mortals and a seaweed crown is placed over his head on grand occasions, as when the "bear festival" takes place. Nothing further is required from a chief than to be brave and strong. His grade is hereditary.

Ainu women tattoo their mouths, arms and sometimes their foreheads. The tattooing is of a rough sort and is done with a knife instead of a needle. The tattoo on their lips, which is meant to represent a mustache, almost reaches to their ears, where it ends in a point. Both men and women wear large ear rings and where rings are not obtainable a piece of wood or rock of cloth are worn as substitutes. Beads also are highly valued by them. Necklaces of Chinese or Japanese origin are often worn by the Volcano Bay and Shiraoi (Sarugawa) Ainu women. Up the Tokachi I never saw any traces of these imported articles, the women there having some rough wooden ornaments instead.

All Ainu houses are thatched, with grass or tall reeds. There is no furniture inside but a few planks, and rarely a rough mat; a small door and a small window looking toward the east are the only openings in the walls while a hole is left in the roof to answer the purpose of a chimney. Some houses have a small porch. Their storehouses are built on poles so as to prevent dogs and wild animals from stealing the provisions of dried fish and seaweed which are kept there for the winter.

The Ainu vocabulary is extremely poor; they have no literature, no books, no writing and hardly anybody can count beyond five. It is therefore almost impossible to learn their exact age.

The distance which I travelled in Yezo and the Kuriles was about 4,200 miles, of which 2,800 were ridden on horseback.

Salty Yarns Measured.

After I had bunked down on the floor of the squatter's cabin and had been given about a quarter of an hour to go to sleep I heard the woman ask her husband across the fireplace:

"Jim, when he uns gits up in the mawnin' will him ask for soap?"

"Of do'se not," replied the man.

"Fur towels?"

"No."

"Won't he un ask fur whisky?"

"No."

"Nor a comb for him's ha'r?"

"No."

"Reckon he un will look fur coffee and taters?"

"Of co'se not."

"Nor for sugar or butter?"

"No."

"Reckon he un will eat pone and bacon and say nuthin?"

"Sartin."

"I wish we had towels and soap and a brush and comb fur he un," she continued after a bit.

"Sally, you purty nigh blind, I reckon," he exclaimed in reply. "Can't you see that he is a gentleman, and doan' yo' own house figger it out that no gentleman ever uses sich truck when he kin possibly dodge it?"—New York Sun.

An Unjust Discrimination.

Judge—So you stole the watch?

Prisoner—No, your Honor, I only discovered it.

Judge—But it was the property of another?

Prisoner—So was America when Columbus discovered it. Why don't you bring you do him? Why do you make fish of one and dog's meat of the other?—Texas Siftings.

Made Solid Handles.

The Gauls to make handles for their battle axes cloth the branches of a tree plated the ax in it and left it till the wound in the wood had been completely healed.

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SPECIMEN CASES.

S. H. Clifford, New Castel, Wis., was troubled with Neuralgia and Rheumatism, his stomach was disordered, his Liver was affected to an alarming degree, appetite fell away, and he was terribly reduced in flesh and strength. Three bottles of Electric Bitters cured him. Edward Shepherd, Harrisburg, Ill., had a running sore on his leg of eight years' standing. Used three bottles of Electric Bitters and seven boxes of Bucklen's Arnica Salve and his leg is sound and well. John Speaker, Catawba, O., had five large Fever sores on his legs, doctors said he was incurable. One bottle Electric Bitters and one box Bucklen's Arnica Salve cured him entirely. Sold at Whitehead & Mitchell's Drug Store.

Brown—Got into a bad scrape last evening. My wife found a letter in my pocket from a woman. How she did rave! Bagley—From a woman? Brown—You're a sorry dog! Brown—The woman in this case, however, was Mrs. B. It was a letter she gave me to mail a week ago.

"Mr. Gazzley—Where you go again, looking under the bed for a man. You've done it for years now every night, and her have not found him yet! Mrs. Gazzley, meekly—No, and you've gone without looking the acts every time I've been to the theater with you for ten years to see a man, and you haven't seen him yet!

When girls get together they will say things. One of them was telling of a "buckboard party" in which she had participated. "And when we got back," said she, "we were chilled through, and while the boys built a smoke we sat and hugged the stove."

"Well," exclaimed the girl with the big blue eyes, "I think you might have hugged the boys and let the stove do the smoking."

THE MECHANIC ARTS.

A machine to measure the number of square feet in boards of different widths, without adjusting, or altering the former, is a new invention.

The Italian ordinance department is considering the purchase of a projectile which, when fired, will produce a luminous disc of 100,000 candle-power. It would light up an enemy's camp with great brilliancy.

A recent English invention relates to the recovery by a new process of the greater part of tin from tin scrap. The scrap is melted with pig iron in a furnace and the tin thus volatilized so that it can be recovered in a suitable condenser.

Among recent novelties that of a newspaper printed on the web of the sacred white spider is chronicled. It is a sheet about seven inches by nine teen inches, contains two columns of matter, including an English story, and is excellently printed.

A convict in a Hungarian prison has patented a device for shaving whereby it requires but twenty-five seconds for the operation. He has been permitted to try the thing on the 130 inmates of the prison, and the experiment is said to have been conducted to the complete satisfaction of the governor of the prison.

For firing dynamite or other high explosives in a shell and from an ordinary gun it is proposed to substitute for the cumbrous machinery necessary to furnish the compressed air for driving the projectile, a shell containing highly compressed air in its rear portion. The gun is a breech-loader smooth bore. When the shell is entered the action of firing forces a pin forward at the base of the shell, thus tearing a hole in the retaining valve and liberating the compressed air, driving the shell from the gun with tremendous force.

FOOLISH AND FUNNY.

Teacher—Now, Johnny, what's your watchword? Johnny—Waterbury.

"How perfectly Hamsha'r plays the villain," said the star to the leading lady. "He is one," replied she.

Mrs. Watts—How is your husband's rheumatism? Mrs. Potts—Better, I think or at least I am getting more used to it.

Wife, to her husband—I say, my dear, how badly the tailor has put this button on your waistcoat! This is the fifth time I have had to sew it on again.

Robbins—You say you gave up your position for one that requires night work? I can't understand it. Dobbins—You'd understand it if you had twins at your house.

Five-Year-Old Boy, only child—Mamma, I wish you'd get me a little sister. I'm so lonesome. Same Boy, at a subsequent period, sitting upright in bed at 11:30 p. m., and shaking his fist at his sweet little sister in the next room—If I'd known what a howler you was goin' to be you can bet your life it would never have ordered you.

In a French Court, Judge, to witness—How far is it from your lodgings to the wine shop in which the murder was committed? The witness hesitates. The Judge, in a fatherly tone of voice—Well, how long would it take you to cover the distance? Witness—Pardon me, your honor. Do you mean how long it would take me to go there or to return?

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Mr. Velvet Plush Photographs. Our agents are making profits for every worker! Sells at sight. Everybody buys it. Price 10 cts., or the cabinet size, 25 cts.—**11 inches long, 8 inches wide and about 3 inches thick.** Room for 24 photographs. Handsomely made of velvet and plush, the photographs are mounted in the most elegant and beautiful manner with lovely Prince-princess; in short, the inside is an exquisite floral bower. Sells at sight. Agents are making from **$5 to $10** per day, and when a person gets one of this size they can have **$5 to $7**. It was thought a bargain to be given off the agency business at 25 cents, but we have changed our Velvet Plush Album, to the people at 10 cents. The people are amused and order at sight whenever it is shown. Sells at sight. Agents are making from **$5 to $10** per day. The people rave over it. Sells at sight. Everybody is hungry crowd. Any one can make money who will work, and rapidly take hundreds of orders. Just examine it and see for yourself.

Our Terms to Agents are the Most Liberal Ever Offered by any House.

Above is a picture of WILLIAM H. GARRISON, Salem, Ohio—Engraved from a Photograph. Mr. Garrison says: "I have made $100 in one dollars a month. I now make as much in a day as I did in a month before I had this business, and often make twenty dollars a day." Mr. Garrison is making a fortune at work for us. He is only one of many doing the same. Hundreds of others can do just as well. Now is the time. The business will remain good for years.

To make great sums of money. We want many new agents at once. Now is the time while the field is new. Don't wait. Some one will get the business in your locality, and why not you? Why not write us, and learn all about it? Why not begin at once? Why not do as well as others? Why not write to-day? Why not write us to-day? Why not write us to-day? Why not write us