the three horns of the Great Slave Lake: and
5
westward across the Rocky mountains through
6
the whole region of the Oregon territories, spread-
7
ing to a vast distance along the shores of
the North Pacific. The date of this visitation
he does not mention. Lewis & Clarke supposed
that it had swept the Columbia some thirty years
before their arrival, or about the year 1780, since
then there have been several returns, the last in
1852-1853, when the Coast tribes particularly
were ravaged. To these imported disorders, the
measles is probably to be added, which is scarcely
less fatal than the others. The great mortality
produced by Congestive Fever between 1820-1830,
upon the Columbia has been mentioned by various
writers. This the Indians, though doubtless erroneously
supposed to have originated from an American
vessel. Among those strictly their own, Consumption
is one of the most destructive of their carelessness in regard to dress,
the slight shelter
from rain and exposure, permitted by their wander-
ing habits, and the dampness of the climate for
a large part of the year, rendering it exceed-
ingly common, and it seems to have become the
more so, since the partial change in their habits,
by association with the whites. A very common
eruptive disorder, attacking the throat, and commonly
supposed to be a form of syphilis has been
recognized by Dr. C. M. Hitchcock, late Surgeon
U. S. Army, as the "Yaws" very common in the