

The gristle of the latter is perforated to admit a goose quill, or a small piece of wood to be passed through the orifice. Their clothing is made of the dressed skins of rein-deer.

Their lodges are of a very simple structure: a few poles supported by a fork, and forming a semi-circle at the bottom, with branches or bark for a covering, constitute the whole of their native architecture. They build two of these huts facing one another, and make a fire between them. They make their own nets, and weapons for hunting, such as bows, arrows, spears, daggers, &c. Their canoes are small, pointed at both ends, flat-bottomed, and covered in the fore-part. They are made so light that the man whom one of these vessels bears on the water, can, in return, carry it over land without difficulty.

When the father of a family takes a journey, he cuts off a lock of hair, and having divided it into several parts, he fastens one of them to the hair on the upper part of his wife's head, blowing on it three times with all the violence in his power, and uttering certain words. The others he fastens with the same formalities on the heads of his children.

Several tribes of the American Indians conclude every business, however serious and important, by dancing, in which old and young join, till their strength is exhausted: this exercise they accompany with loud imitations of the various noises produced by the rein-deer, the bear, and the wolf.

If they are unwilling to perform any task demanded of them, they will all, at one and the same moment, pretend to be sick. Sir A. Mackenzie, speaking of these people, observes, that he was under the necessity of shooting one of their dogs. When they heard the report of the pistol, they were seized with a general alarm, and the women took their children on their