

the white man, of the tramp and of the professional beggar. The Redskin, as a rule, the Digger forming no exception, is above such degradation. The second word, *tadazni*, denotes the mental desire of assistance expressed by mere bodily presence, the silent request for material help or simply the expectation of aid which is regarded as possible, though not certain. There is nothing degrading in such an action. It is, on the contrary, a witness to the self-respect of the individual who, fully aware of his own needs, is yet too much of a man to ask for the goods of his fellow creature. Such is the begging of the Digger. Many whites there are who could take lessons from him.

On that score, again, he is vastly superior to the Sékanais and other eastern Dénés who will formally beg from the whites, with the manifestation of the most abject servility, though they will ordinarily be more reserved among people of their own blood and condition.

Now as to the arts, which are the secondary sign or token of the presence of civilization. Our essayist is rather reticent on that point, probably for excellent reasons; but even here I easily find an unmistakable mark of the inferiority of the Sékanais as compared with the Diggers. The latter, we are told, "weave their baskets from bark and rootlets"; and we are further informed that these "are all water-tight".

Not so bad, I should think, for him who, "with the exception of the Patagonian,... ranks lowest in the scale of humanity". That much could certainly not be said of the Sékanais who is innocent of the least attempt at basket weaving. His own poor substitute for a basket is a rough vessel of birch bark folded up and simply stitched into shape. His southern neighbors, as well as those Coast Indians who live under the same latitude, all weave regular root baskets; but the Sékanais is not up to that art.

Ellen Weber is not quite sure whether the Diggers have any stone pestle, though she avers that she once "had, in a collection of curios, a 'Diggers pestle' of white stone resembling marble. Now I am quite positive that the Sékanais never had any pestle whatever.