

that several persons belonging to different families lived in the same house and smoked the same pipe. Every feather was significant, and there was an elaborate ritual for the handling of the sacred pipes, disregard of which was believed to be sure to bring serious consequences to the tribe or some members of the tribe. If the pipe stem became clogged in smoking and would not "draw," the pipe-bearer was destined to be killed; if it fell to the ground, it was believed that the pipe-bearer or some prominent person would soon die. When attacking a herd of buffaloes, or going out to welcome a stranger to the camp, a man went out carrying a pipe. A sacred pipe placed between two combatants by a proper person generally ended a quarrel, or, if sent to a hostile tribe and smoked, secured friendship. When two men belonging to different tribes met on the prairies, if they smoked together, it was a token of peace. The bearer of a sacred pipe went unarmed to the village of a hostile tribe, taking care to reach the place in daylight, and always was he protected and well treated. There were men specially appointed to take care of the sacred pipes, whose persons were held sacred and who were entitled to divers and sundry privileges belonging to their office. Horses were provided by some of the tribes for transporting the pipes when the Indians were travelling. The wo-

