

other observers, placing them in chronological order of observation. Some of the quoted writers visited this tribe in the most prosperous period of their history, others in later and unhappy days; yet their opinions are not at variance with one another.

1832.—“There is no tribe in the western wilds, perhaps, who are better entitled to the style of warlike than the Minatarees; for they, unlike the Mandans, are continually carrying war into their enemies' country; oftentimes drawing the poor Mandans into unnecessary broils, and suffering so much themselves in their desperate war-excursions that I find the proportion of women to the number of men as two or three to one through the tribe.”—*Catlin, N. A. Indians*, vol. I, p. 187.

“This day's ramble showed us all the inhabitants of this little tribe, except a portion of their warriors, who are out on a war-excursion against the Riccarees; and I have been exceedingly pleased with their general behavior and looks, as well as with their numerous games and amusements, in many of which I have given them great pleasure by taking a part.”—*Ib.*, p. 199.

1834.—“The Mandans and Manitaries are proud and have a high sense of honor.”—*Maximilian*, p. 353.

1848.—“The Minataries are a noble, interesting people.”—*Palliser*, p. 198.

1851.—“Some days after, we stopped at Fort Berthold, to land some goods at the great village of the Minataries, or Osier tribe, nicknamed the *Grosventres* of the Missouri.”

* * * * * “The great chief of the latter village, called Four Bears, is the most civil and affable Indian that I met on the Missouri.”—*De Smet*, pp. 76-77.

1854.—“The Grosventres have a large village of mud houses, very unsightly outside, but within warm and comfortable. These Indians are fine specimens of the red man. They are industrious, and raise corn enough to supply many of their neighbors with bread. They are well disposed toward the whites.”—*Report of Commissioner of Indian Affairs for 1854*.*

1858.—“I shall ever look back upon the years spent in

* Extract from report of Lieutenant Saxton to Gov. I. I. Stevens.