

supposed to use with as good effect as when hunting in the flesh, a fact which speaks well for the vigor of the inhabitants of the spirit land. Some families, with a self-sacrifice which was truly commendable, allowed the spiritual Indian the use of a rifle, but of this he was in some way unaccountably careless. Unlike the tobacco, he could neither smoke, chew nor swallow it. How then did it come to pass that nothing less than a rifle a fortnight or thereabouts would do him. Evidently, the rifle was too heavy to carry after a long and fatiguing chase, or else the spiritual Indian, in opposition to the fleshy one, exhibited a decided preference for the national weapon. Some of these rifles had actually been found many miles away from the resting-place of the dead, where the spirit had thrown them down—by so doing losing his right to the property, which passed to the finder. It is worthy of remark, that the bow and arrows—the weapon which was given directly by the Great Spirit to the Indian—was never used in this contemptuous manner. Our attention is next directed to a pack of cards, which occupy a conspicuous place, and are, whenever they can be procured, an important auxiliary to Indian amusement. They are well thumbed from constant use. It cannot be that he plays a lone game. In the first place, it would be selfish not to invite his fellows, who have not the good fortune to possess these fascinating books; and in the second, playing cards alone is rather poor amusement, should the game even be an Indian one. There is something peculiar about any game which we have seen played by the red brethren. We have sat by for hours studying the game to see wherein its strong points lay, and have given it up in despair. It seemed as if, till played, all the cards were on an equality. An indefinite number were dealt out, and these were played in a manner that, if seen by him, would set Hoyle to revising his work. All the cards seemed to be trumps, and the man who played last seemed, in some mysterious way, to have the best of it. Beside the cards, we see many articles of ornament, such as beads and rings, some knives, and several strings of jerked beef—this latter picked and frayed by the birds. It might be supposed that bodies thus disposed of would speedily become offensive, but such is not the case. Like the jerked meat on which he lives, the body speedily dries up, and thus it remains for years. We have seen, where trees are not available, a kind of a platform, much after the pattern of a fish-flake, and six by eight feet, erected for

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