

deficient as the knowledge respecting other matters already mentioned; and their intellectual state, as shown in such arts as the reckoning of time, the treatment of wounds, &c., is also to some extent known from books of travel. Still every observant traveller finds something in savage arts which has escaped former visitors, and there are a number of points on which further inquiry is particularly invited. Though the practical use of stone implements has almost or altogether ceased, there are still old people who can show their ways of making them, and inquiry may probably show that stone arrow-heads, hatchets, &c., are still treasured as sacred objects, as is the case among tribes in California, who carry in their ceremonial dances knives chipped out of flint and mounted in handles—relics of the Stone Age among their fathers. Notwithstanding the general introduction of iron and steel tools by the whites, it is possible that something may still be learnt as to the former use of native copper and of meteoric iron (or iron supposed to be meteoric). With regard to native weapons, the spliced Tatar bow being usual in this part of America (having probably come over from Asia), it is desirable to examine further the modes of making and using it, the forms of arrows, &c. Any game-traps on the bow principle, if apparently of native origin, are worth describing, as possibly bearing on the early history of the bow. The art of cooking by water heated by dropping in red-hot stones having been characteristic of the western region, any traces of this should be noticed, while the native vessels carved out of wood or closely woven of fir root, &c., are still interesting. The native mode of twisting or spinning thread or yarn, and the manufacture of a kind of cloth, not woven but tied across like that of New Zealand, require fuller description. Especial attention is required to the ornamental patterns of the region, which are of notable peculiarity and cleverness. To a considerable extent a study of them on hats and blankets, coats and pipes, &c., shows, in the first place, actual representation of such natural objects as men or birds, or parts of them, which have gradually lost their strictness and passed into mere ornamental designs; but the whole of this subject, so interesting to students of art, requires far closer examination than it has yet received, and especially needs the comparison of large series of native ornamented work.

*Music and Amusements.*—The ceremonial dances, especially those in which the performers wear masks and represent particular animals or characters, deserve careful description from the information to be gained from them as to the mythology and religion embodied in them. The chants accompanying the dances should be written down with musical accuracy—a task requiring considerable skill, though the accompaniments of rattle and hollowed wooden drum are of the simplest. Several of the games played among the Indians before the coming of the Europeans are of interest from their apparent connection with those of the Old World. This is the case with the ball-play, now known by the French name 'la crosse,' which belonged to the European game familiar to the French colonists. It is worth while to ascertain in any district where it is played what form of bat was used, what were the rules, and whether villages or clans were usually matched against each other. The bowl-game, in which lots such as buttons or peach-stones blackened on one side are thrown up, has its analogues in Asia; the rules of counting and scoring belonging to any district should be carefully set down. It is in fact more difficult than at first sight appears to describe the rules of a game so as to enable a novice to play it. Among other noticeable games are that of