

carried the operation must be attended with great suffering to the infant, but I never heard the infants crying or moaning, although I have seen their eyes seemingly starting out of the sockets from the great pressure. But on the contrary, when the bandages were removed I have noticed them cry until they were replaced.

From the apparent dullness of the children whilst under the pressure I should imagine that a state of torpor or insensibility is induced, and that a return to consciousness occasioned by its removal must be naturally followed by the sense of pain.

This unnatural operation does not however seem to injure the health, the mortality amongst the Flat-Head children not being perceptibly greater than amongst other Indian tribes. Nor does it seem to injure their intellect; on the contrary, the Flat-Heads are generally considered fully as intelligent as the surrounding tribes who allow their heads to preserve their natural shape; and it is from amongst the round-heads that the Flat-Heads take their slaves. They look with contempt even upon the whites for having round-heads, the *flat-head* being considered as the distinguishing mark of freedom. I may here remark, that, amongst the tribes who have slaves there is always something which conspicuously marks the difference between the slave and the free, such as the Chimseyan, who wear a ring in the nose, and the Babbenes who have a large piece of wood inserted through the under lip. The Chinooks, like all other Indian tribes, pluck out the beard on its first appearance.

I would give a specimen of the barbarous language of these people, were it not impossible to represent by any combination of the letters of our alphabet the horribly harsh, gasping, spluttering sounds which proceed from their throats, apparently unguided either by the tongue or lips. It is so difficult to acquire a mastery of their language that none have been able to attain it unless those who have been born amongst them. They have, however, by their intercourse with the English and French traders succeeded in amalgamating, after a fashion, some words of each of these tongues with their own, and have formed a sort of Patois, barbarous enough certainly, but still sufficient to enable them to communicate with the traders.

This Patois I succeeded, after some short time, in acquiring, and could converse with most of the chiefs with tolerable ease. Their common salutation is *Clah hoh ah yah*, originating, as I believe in their having heard in the early days of the fur trade a gentleman named Clark frequently addressed by his friends, "Clark, how are you?" This salutation is now applied to every white man, their own