

a fire and rubbed between the hands, and are then ready for use.

¶ When the Indians were in their lodges they used a common pipe, the master of the lodge filling it, and handing it to one of the men in the circle who lighted it. It was passed around, each one taking a few whiffs. Each smoker swallowed the last whiff of smoke and allowed it to pass through his nostrils. The Indians seldom smoked individually when in company, although each man carried his own pipe. The men never allowed the women to join them in smoking in company, but when the family was alone the husband and wife sometimes smoked together. The pipes of the women were small and plain, and when a company of them was assembled they passed the pipe around, like the men, each indulging in a few whiffs. Besides the common pipes, used upon every occasion, there was generally a sacred pipe, owned by the Indian, especially if he was a chief and in good circumstances. This was kept as a sacred talisman, whose presence in the lodge was believed to afford protection, and in time of sickness to exert a healing virtue. "During a period of sickness among the Blood Indians," writes Rev. John Maclean, "we were administering medicine to a child of one of the chiefs, named Blackfoot Old Wo-

