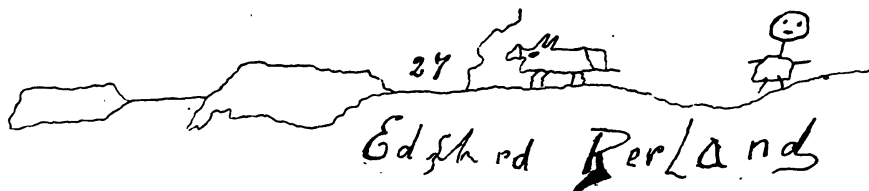


Rock-carvings and etchings on bone and shell are found, illustrating the modes of picture-writing. As in the Indian chant there is the repetition of a single idea, so in the native pictography there is an expression of a single thought represented by a pictograph. The headless body of an Indian with a gun or spear beside him represents death, and the means by which he was slain. The following pictograph was found by Sir George Simpson upon a tree as he was travelling in the West:



This was inscribed with a piece of burnt wood, and was nothing less than a letter for the information of the party. The contents of this pictograph were, that Edward Berland was awaiting the party with a band of twenty-seven horses at the point where the river received a tributary before expanding into two consecutive lakes. In a pictograph describing a battle, an Indian with an empty hand and fingers extended meant that he had no weapons with which to fight.

The native tribes used this system of writing extensively for the purpose of ornament, expression of religious ideas, recording of notable events, which may be the history of the tribe for half a century as in the Dakota Count, some single event in the life of a single individual, or a war party, or the autobiography of a man. Map-making by the Eskimo and Indians was accurately done on birch bark and other substances.

An Indian can describe upon the ground with a piece of wood, as I have seen them do, the geographical features of the country and various routes.

Concerning the Ojibway pictography, Schoolcraft says:—"For their pictographic devices the North American Indians have two terms, namely, *Kekeewin*, or such things as are generally understood by the tribe, and *Kekeenowin*, or teachings of the *medas*, or priests, and *jassa-keeds* or prophets. The knowledge of the latter is chiefly confined to persons who are versed in their system of magic medicine or their religion, and may be deemed hieratic. The former consists of the common figurative signs, such as are employed at places of sepulture, or by hunting or travelling parties. It is also employed in the *muzzinabiks*, or rock-writings. Many of the figures are common to both, and are seen in the drawings generally; but it is to be understood that this