

to war. *Natosonesta, Medicine Calf*, one of the most influential chiefs of the tribe, was not present at the council, and it was at last agreed to adjourn, to meet and hear *Medicine Calf's* opinion. The council met, and the chief was present, when the decision of the council was stated to him. The chief listened intently, and then asked,

"Where are the Sioux?"

"In our territory," was the reply.

"What harm have they done?" he enquired.

"They have not done any," was the answer.

Curtly then he spoke to the council: "I fight against my enemies!"

This ended the council meeting and the Blood Indians did not go to war.

The war chief was in the early days elected for five years, but now they retain their position for life, or until they are unfit to perform their duties. Since the institution of reservations, and the supervision of the Government, the chiefs are retained in their positions during good behaviour, or until death or incompetency removes them. The present war chief of the Blood Indians is *Manistokos, the Father of Many Children, alias White Calf*.

The peace chief is elected similarly to the war chief. His duties are to keep order in the camp, and to regulate all matters in the camp. He is the chief civil officer, and is supreme except in times of war. When the tribe is on the march he gives orders where the lodges are to be pitched collectively. Whenever anything happens as they are travelling the soldiers call a meeting in the chief's lodge, over which the chief presides. The question is discussed, and a decision arrived at, whereupon the soldiers receive their instructions from the chief and hasten speedily to obey his command. All petty grievances and quarrels are brought before him, and he gives his advice as to the manner of settlement. Grave questions affecting the tribe, and not of an individual character, are reserved for the council; but all minor disputes arising from theft, offences against the person, and questions of a similar nature are settled by the chief as judge, magistrate, adviser and father to his people. The peace chief must be therefore stern in giving his decrees, wise and sympathetic in counsel, dignified in his dealings and impartial in his judgments—a judge on the bench and a father at the lodge-fires of his people. At the camp-fire he is stern and dignified, at the lodge-fire sympathetic and humble. *Mikasto, Red Crow*, is the peace chief of the Blood Indians.