

youth are ornamented with porcupines' quills, and painted various colours. They are alike insensible to the heat of summer, and cold of winter. However, when the earth is covered with snow, and the winds blow violently, they wear mockskins*, and cover their bodies with a skin.

They have no particular way of wearing their hair, which is generally long and in disorder, except on festive days, when it is carefully bound up. Some stain it with the juices of different plants, and adorn it with porcupines' quills. All the savages have, in their infancy, their ears cut, and their parents take care to introduce into them round pieces of wood or brass wire. The Mandanes, Halitanes, and Corbeaux, are the only nations that do not follow this practice. They wear all their ornaments round their necks. It is difficult to imagine to what a length the cartilages are extended. I have seen a Miami savage, whose ear-rings, although not longer than three inches, reached down to his breast. Many wear the similar ornaments in their noses.

The women are covered with a skin, which reaches from their shoulders to their feet. They are ornamented with porcupines' quills and small glass beads. Their ears, like those of the men, are pierced and adorned with trinkets, but the cartilages are not lengthened. The young women paint themselves with different colours, but vermilion is generally preferred.

The savages of Upper Missouri are divided into stationary and wandering. The stationary tribes are those who constantly remain in their villages without going either to war or the chase; while the wanderers derive their whole support from the pursuit of animals, and carry with them all their property, without troubling themselves about agriculture.

The stationary nations construct cabins, round and terminating in the form of a cone, and large in proportion to the number of their inhabitants. The tents of the wanderers are made of buffalo's skins sewed to each other, which terminate also in a cone. They have four wheels, and are drawn by dogs. The nations of Upper Missouri have not received either arms, clothing, agricultural instruments, or any tools from the Whites. They boil their meat in earthen pots of their own manufacture. A sharp stone strongly fixed in a wooden handle serves them for a hatchet. To obtain fire, they rub two pieces of wood, one soft and the other hard, violently against each other, till they emit sparks, and are received on some dry branches of the pine

* Skin-shoes in the form of socks.