

11--Sioux Indian Paintings

universal; a panache of eagle feathers at the top is also used. The central pole is said by the Shoshone to symbolize God, "the Father Above." Twelve poles leaning upon this at the fork (only eight are indicated in the drawing) they say are emblems of the twelve Apostles, as also are the eagle feathers. Some say that the horizontal bunch of green sage typifies Christ, "the Son of the Father," a symbolism possibly in part suggested by the cruciform effect of the whole. The ceremony is profoundly religious, and all the most serious faiths of the people come to attach themselves to it. Painting on muslin by an unknown Shoshone. (Collection of C. A. Carter, Los Angeles).

Plate XXI

Erection of the Sun Dance lodge of the Kiowa. Painting upon deerskin by Silver Horn. (U. S. National Museum).

Plate XXII

Right, bottom, a captive woman strikes the tree marked by four bars while the priest and his assistants chant--an act very characteristic of the Sun Dance ritual among prairie tribes. To the left the ceremonial party consecrates the fallen tree. Above the tree is shown the Sun Dance Pole surrounded by the ceremonial tipis. Painting upon ~~muslin by an unknown Shoshone~~ deerskin by Silver Horn. (U. S. National Museum).

Plate XXIII

(a) To the left, the Pole erected and adorned for the Sun Dance. It is the office of the horseman with the flag to lead in the dancers. Beside and below the Pole are shown the front and back of dancers with plume and whistle. To the left, below, a buffalo masker is prepared or the preliminary dance.

(b) To the right, two episodes of the Peyote Cult. Below are shown four priests approaching the ceremonial tipi, beside which are two priests and the ritual objects: drum, plumed wand, peyote "beans", fan, rattle, water-bucket, fire. Above the tipi is shown a woman with water-bucket awaiting summons from within. To the right is shown the ceremony that takes place within: the crescent-shaped altar and the fire; the devotees seated upon a mosaic semi-circle made of sands, willow charcoal, and ashes. Prayers and visions mark the seance. Painting upon deerskin by Silver Horn. (U. S. National Museum).

Plate XXIV

Legendary episodes painted upon deerskin by Silver Horn.