

north (November). (42)

Should the horns of the moon at first quarter point toward the earth, we say the moon is chilled and we are going to have cool days; should the horns be turned up, we say we are going to have good days this month. However, we didn't have many ways of predicting weather. If ducks or fowl flew low on their way south, we knew rain would soon fall; if they flew high, clear weather was in the offing. A rainbow predicted clear weather; that's all we ever said about the rainbow. Northern lights were never thought of by our people as ghosts; we merely looked at them and wondered what they were.

Some kept count of years by picturing an outstanding event of each year on the trunk of a small smoothly planed tree. Years began with the falling of the leaves, as I have said, and ended at the same time the following year. Events recorded in pictures or markings might be such as the death of a great man, an eclipse of either sun or moon, the falling of a comet, a great battle, forest fires, earthquakes, etc. I would like to show you my record of events, but it was burnt when my house burnt down two years ago. It was made of the horns of a mountain goat. I made it by soaking and boiling the horns repeatedly and after each boiling flattening them out a little more. When they were as flat as I could make them, I dried them under weights of rock. The horns were fastened together at head ends. I recorded events by drawing a picture of each. When reading the events you began at the outer edge,

(42) Hayden's account of the Dakota moons is as follows:

- 1st moon, ma-ga-galli-wi, when the geese come up from the south, March
  - 2nd moon, pe-zi'-to-i-wam-pi-wik, when the grass springs up, April
  - 3rd moon, shunk-a-ma-ni-tu-cin'-ca-ton-wik, when the wolves have their young, May
  - 4th moon, pte-ki-u'-ha-wik, the rutting time of the buffalo, June
  - 5th moon, cam'-pa-sha-wik, when the cherries are red, July
  - 6th moon, cam'-pa-sa-pa-wik, black cherry moon, when the cherries are ripe, August
  - 7th moon, can-wak'-pa-hi-wik, when the leaves become yellow, September
  - 8th moon, can-wak-pe-inh'-pa, when the leaves fall, October
  - 9th moon, wik-to-ka-i-ca'-mi-na, when the first snow falls, November
  - 10th moon, pte-yu'-kta-ha-shi'-na-wash'-te, when the robes are good, December
  - 11th moon, pte-i-cu-la-wash-te-yu-ta-wik, the time when the young buffalo (in utero) are good to eat. January
  - 12th moon, shunk-a-ma-ni-tu-ga-nash'-ki-wik, when the wolves go mad, February
- (Loc. cit., page 376.)