

and the robe wrapped around them all. He was then taken out and buried without a coffin in a grave about 3 foot deep. Poles were layed across the hole and Indian women gathered grass and scattered over the poles; then the dirt from the grave was mounded on top of that. The Chief's favorite horse was then led up and shot beside the grave of his master. Then the old medicine man chanted "We will soon be in the happy hunting, hunting, hunting grounds with the many friends who left us long ago." He was sure dead but well dressed up; as much so as any Indian I have ever seen at a scalp dance. (This was not always the means of burial for I have heard my father tell of being hired by the government to take down Indian bodies from treas and bury them.

Torture Pole.

A long pole planted in the ground where the young buck Indians went to undergo a series of torture to show their courage and ability to become warriors. The day we were there several young men were performing stunts that seemed very cruel and unreasonable. One young fellow had two slits cut in his skin over each hip, a thong passed through under the skin and a buffalo skull hung from each thong. He was dancing around the pole endeavoring to break away from those skulls by tearing the skin between the slits over each hip. I was told if he failed to do so the old medicine man had to cut the skin for him and had to receive payment of a horse for so doing.