

je'pata'iwûn ("elevated tie stakes"). Around the inside of the top the gunwale (minak, "frame") was attached. This part of the work had to be completed by noon, so that the canoe could be finished by dark; otherwise the bark warped. Along /(220) the gunwale six or more places were marked for attaching thwarts. These were three or four feet apart in the case of the larger lake-going canoes, and less for ordinary craft, or for the diminutive one-man variety.

Broad thwarts were made for the center portions, narrow ones for the ends, but these were temporarily supplied by false cross-pieces, while temporary ribs were added. Now eight men went to work on the frame, four at the bow, and four at the stern. The bark covering, sewed in a single sheet, was passed under the frame with great care, and smoothly shaped. Then it was sewn fast to the gunwale with wata'p. The cross-ribs, three or four fingers broad, were soaked in hot water to soften them, and were then laid in, about eighteen inches apart (pl. XLVI, b). These were called mitcimi'skotcinanak, "holding down" or "holding out pieces." The temporary ribs and thwarts were next removed, and real thwarts were sewed in. Perhaps at this stage, thin, flat, oval boards were inserted as spreaders, set perpendicularly in the bow and the stern of the canoe to hold out the /(221) bark. The tops of these projecting above the gunwales were ornamentally carved. The bow and the stern, which were left to the last, were next sewed by the women, with great care, and the rough edges were trimmed with a knife. The upturned tips at both ends were not yet attached, but it was imperative that the work up to this point be completed without stopping, lest the bark warp.

Next day the inner sheathing was put in, pieces of three fingers' width alternating with those of four fingers. As usual, these were first wet with hot water to render them flexible. They are said to have been difficult to adjust at the noses, where they came together, as they often cracked. Cracked sheathing was discarded and new selected. The sheathing was sometimes made