

Colonel's tent. In the absence of timber to make a flag staff, we lashed three long poles together, and set them up like a three-legged stool. Notwithstanding the paucity of materials, our staff made a fine appearance, and the American flag floated gracefully to the breeze.

This evening, in the Chayenne's camp, for the first time, I witnessed the interesting process of killing and dressing a dog for a feast. The victim was a large cur, quite fat. Two squaws lassoed him and hung him up until he was dead. They then put him on a fire, and singed, or rather roasted off the hair, scraping the skin until it was as clean as a scalded hog. They then dressed it, and cut it up, and put it into a large copper kettle, where it was boiled until the bones came out. Having witnessed the process of preparation, I could not indulge in the luxury of eating any of it. During the evening and night, there were Dog Feasts in the camps of the Brulies and Avalahlah bands of the Sioux. They kept up in their villages a dance, drumming, music and whooping, the entire night, all of which could be distinctly heard in our camp. Of these dances, I shall have more to say hereafter.

#### THE COUNCIL

This morning, soon after the cannon was fired, the various bands and tribes commenced assembling in the place prepared for the Council. The first difficulty was the order of precedence of the Tribes. About this there was as much stickling and contrariety of claim as at a court dinner, or between the officers of the army on a public occasion. Some Tribes contended for precedence because of their numbers, others because of their antiquity, and others for their deeds of daring. This was summarily settled by the Commissioner peremptorily assigning positions to each, without respect to that important term "rank". Then, some of the tribes had minor difficulties, in settling the question or precedence between the various bands, and then the personal rank of