

*precocious*  
their living trading pemmican and robes.

The Crows, never quite able to make up their minds whether to occupy the dangerous plains or take refuge in the <sup>n</sup>mountains, were divided into two tribes, the River Crows and the Mountain Crows. Altogether they numbered perhaps 4000 people, ranging on the Big Horn River, the Yellowstone, the headwaters of the Powder and *Wind* Rivers to the Laramie fork of the Platte. They had a taste for handsome tipis and garments of mountain sheep leather, raised tobacco, *with great ceremony,* and had many horses. They were ~~at~~ <sup>at</sup> perpetual war with the Blackfeet, ~~Dakota~~, Cheyenne and Arapaho — *and* they were friendly only with the white men. It was their boast that they did not kill white men — they only robbed them. They were fierce fighters, but somewhat unstable, perhaps because they were surrounded by such powerful enemies. They called themselves Absaroka, the Crow or Sparrow Hawk or Bird People. They were kind to the Hidatsa on the Missouri.

*Lakota,*  
South of the Blackfeet, the Teton, ~~Dakota~~, or Prairie Sioux were the most numerous and powerful nation on the plains. The Teton were only one of the seven main divisions of the Sioux, all the others living east of the Missouri. The Teton *proper* included seven main tribes: the Oglala, Brulé (or Burnt Thighs), the Blackfoot Sioux, the Minniconjou (those who plant by the ~~w~~ water), the Sans Arc or Itazipso, the Two *Sioux,* Kettle, and the Hunkpapa.

Their friends were the Cheyenne and Arapaho, but their enemies were legion: the ~~Americans~~ <sup>white men,</sup> the Assinaboine, Shoshone, Pawnee, ~~Crow~~, Mandans, Rees, Kiowa, Blackfoot, Piegan and Blood, Flatheads, Nez Percés, Bannocks, Utes, Crees, Ojibway, Gros Ventres of the *P*rairie, Gros Ventrea of the *V*illage, Comanches. The Tetons were dominant on the northern plains and principals in all the wars of that region. They fought all comers in continual wars, and doubled their numbers every twenty years. They were a fine, large, well formed, tall, vigorous people, daring warriors, expert horsemen, skilfull hunters, excelling in all the Indian virtues of bravery, generosity, fortitude, and fecundity. They lorded it over all tribes around.