

NOTES ON MANUFACTURES AND INTERTRIBAL TRADE

My informant, Frank Hart, whose tribal name is Whiteowl, said that the Dakotas did not know how to make pottery. He said they practiced stone-boiling in their cooking but they sometimes traded other goods to the Arikaras for pots. Some of the goods, which they brought to the Arikaras to trade, were dried meat, sinew, glue, spoons made from buffalo horns and ladles made from the horns of the bighorn. The Arikaras obtained arrows from the Dakota arrow-makers, although they considered these to be of an inferior quality to those made by artisans of their own tribe. Still, even though inferior, they were taken in trade at an inferior price.

My informants said that eagle feathers were an important item of export in the commerce their nation had with the Dakotas. Though eagle feathers were held in great demand by the Dakotas for use in fashioning their personal honor decorations emblematic of valorous deeds, they said the Dakotas were not so good at eagle catching, as were the Arikaras. From this item of commerce, the Arikaras obtained an abundance of horses. They could exchange one or two good horses with the Dakotas for one good eagle tail.