

side of these baskets is a form of technique which also constitutes the ornamentation. It is not something that is overlaid or sewed on, but is a part of the texture effected in the process of the making. The method of adding this ornamentation in strips of cherry bark, cedar bast and grass stems layed with mahonia is unique. The strip of colored bark or grass is laid down and caught under a passing stitch; before another stitch is taken this one is bent forward to cover the last stitch, doubled on itself so as to be underneath the next stitch, and so on with each one, it is bent forward and backward so that the sewing is entirely concealed.

The student of basketry learns the lore of passing race; learns the various materials and color and texture, the technical elements and their forms, and the methods of assembling them.

The love of decoration that is seen in the Indian basketry was given a more grotesque latitude when it came to personal adornment. The Indians of the Columbia river region once had a fashion of piercing their ears and noses, inserting therein strings of beads and hiqua shells, the latter being highly prized. Collars of bears' claws were cherished by the men, while elk teeth were popular with the woman and children. Deer-skin garments were decorated with shells and other articles that caused the wearer to flash and jingle before the eyes and ears of his neighbors.

Before modern cooking utensils came into use among the Indians, they used troughs or bowls hewn from cedar, and baskets woven from willow withes and roots, or grasses, made so tight that they held water. Into these they placed food to be cooked, and by means of heated stones cast in upon the food, this was cooked and made ready for use. Fine specimens of these ancient vessels may be seen today at Wishram village, six miles above The Dalles, on the Washington side of the river. The owners would not part with these old utensils, made by the red man of a past age, for they are heirlooms and prized highly. So long have the wooden bowls been in use that they are black as ebony and smooth as satin. Many are carved beautifully and are very artistic from an Indian standpoint.

Spoons made of the horn of the big horn sheep were in use when Lewis and Clark came down the river on their voyage of exploration of the great west. In some of the villages along the Columbia river these old spoons are shown trusted visitors today, spoken of with great reverence and pride as something that links the misty past with the glowing present. When horn could not be procured from which to form the spoons, wood was used, and some very fine ones were made, carved with symbols, used to convey some special thought to the mind of the one using it.

Although the red men went on long hunting trips for the purpose of securing meats of various kinds, the staple article of food was that of