be otherwise. There is no priesthood aside from the tamahnous men or Doctors, who have by virtue of their office, an important part to play, as leading the ceremonial incantations which accompany proceedings of general interest.

In their councils every one has the right of speaking, and assent or dissent is ascertained by exclamation or silence. Some of them are effective orators, though in general their eloquence is of a very noisy, and vociferous kind

The women are present at, and join in these talks speaking in a low tone, and their words being repeated aloud by a reporter. On occasions of less ceremony they sometimes address the audience without any such intervention and give their admonitions with a freedom of tongue, highly edifying. In a few instances malone of superior character "strong minded women", have obtained an influence similar to that of chiefs. Sally, the widow of Chenahmus, a Chinook chief, well known on the lower Columbia, enjoys great authority among the Indians, and general immunity from the whites. The Queen, an old lady of the Chihalis, who patronized Capt. Wilkes' party in 1841, yet rules her neighborhood, with undisputed sway, and on occasion of the late council, put in her oar with considerable effect against a removal. After the talks, time is