form the most important staple of subsistence, so with them are connected the greatest number of superstitions. These have with many tribes in a measure died away: but till of late years were rigorously maintained. Messrs. Lewis & Clarke mentioning the capture of the first salmon at the Dalles in 1807, on occasion of great rejoicing, as a harbinger of the school, state that in order to hasten their arrival, the Indians according to custom, dressed the fish and cut it into small pieces, one of which was given to each child in the village. At the mouth of the Columbia, the first salmon taken could only be eaten by the medicine men. The rest was eaten by the inhabitants of the lodge. The taking of the "first fish of the season", was in fact every where the occasion of a feast. The salmon dance was performed, and the anticipation of plenty lightened the hearts of all. The earlier fish could not be obtained at any price by a white man, unless they were first cooked, lest he should open them with a knife, instead of a stone, or cut them crossways. The heart was always roasted and eaten, for fear a dog should eat it, when no more salmon would be taken. The restrictions upon women during menstruation and pregnancy were stringent and there were numerous other details observed such as eating particular parts with the fingers and with the