a practice which probably has its effects in lessening the fecundity of the women.

Common conversation in the lodge, is as might be supposed, on trivial subjects, relating to their own concerns, dogs, horses &c; the little occurrances of the day, what each has been doing, every trifle being thus known to all. The future is rarely a subject of attention. They are on the other hand fond of reciting their former actions, or speaking of persons deceased, relating what each knows of them, as one in civilized life would discuss the characters of history. If an Indian has been on a journey, perhaps the night ensuing that of his return the others come to his lodge. They ask no questions but sit quietly and when he sees fit, he commences a history of what he saw or heard even to the minutest details. The one who remembers most, or is the best carrier of news, has a corresponding importance. They are exceedingly lewd in their common talk, the most indecent subjects being coolly discussed or jested upon. When a couple of canoes meet for instance they always stop to talk to exchange news and generally to "chaff" one another in a style that would electrify a Thames Waterman.

Their first meal when at home is generally about ten or eleven o'clock, the previous night till a late hour having probably been spent in gambling, tomahawk making or some other amusement. From that time forward cooking goes on with very little