his wife; and if he happens to be in a trader's house, and either father or mother-in-law enters, he generally retires.   Such is Sioux etiquette between these relations.

Of births.   As soon as a child is born, the mother goes into the water, and stands in it over her waist, and bathes herself for some considerable length of time.   If in winter, she has a hole cut in the ice, through which she enters and bathes.   ,

Deaths and burials.   When a person dies, the body is decorated in all of his or her finery, and four forks or crotches are cut and stuck in the ground, upon which a scaffold is made, and the deceased wrapped in a newly painted buffalo skin or new blanket, and laid thereon with some ceremony.   If the death takes place at a trader's house in the fall before they go to their hunt, an old woman, a relative of the deceased, is left there to feed and cry over the dead during the absence of the others.   She usually goes about dark in the evening with a dish of provisions, and sits down under the scaffold, and commences crying and howling, with loud lamentations, and calling upon the Great Spirit something as follows: *Wah-kaw-tong-gaw, oh she mendok* (naming the deceased) with other cries, which mean—Great Spirit, have mercy on the deceased, &c.   This doleful noise is very unpleasant, and after continuing it for about an hour, she leaves the dish of food under the scaffold, and returns to the lodge, and the dogs or wolves eat the provisions, when the Indians suppose the dead eat them.   The corpse is left in this manner until nothing remains but the bones, when they are collected and carried to their village.   At one time at my house in St. Peters, an Indian of some note, who had four grown daughters, had a death in his family, and he named four young men to build the scaffold and put the corpse thereon, and when concluded, he rewarded each with one of his daughters for a wife.

When a death happens in a family, no matter how well they are clothed, the good clothes are stripped off and given away, and the worst old leather rags substituted in their place, besmear-