

and North-West. That part of the nation among whom I resided and I presume the same is the case with the remainder, is divided into numerous bands, each under a subordinate chief, but the whole under one generally acknowledged head—and that head chief, at the time of my visit, was the celebrated Hole-in-the-Day. This was the common name by which he was known among our people. His real name was Pug-o-naghe-zhisk, which, being literally translated, means, *a puncture through the sky, through which the light streams down*. He did not occupy this position by hereditary right, but by the common voice of the nation, aided by his own restless ambition and love of distinction. For, like most of the ruder nations, the Indians while nominally recognizing the hereditary nature of the chieftainship, are by no means confined to it, and a man of aspiring and really superior character, has it almost always in his power to reach the goal of his ambition, irrespective of the accidents of birth.

Brusha, the really head chief of the nation, as I was informed, although a person of more than ordinary intelligence, was not possessed of those daring and bold traits of character, which are so captivating to the Indian mind; and while he was respected and deferred to, as a legitimate hereditary chief, the nation looked to and followed HOLE-IN-THE-DAY (for I shall continue to call him by that name, by which he is known to our people,) as their leader, and it was his counsel and his plans which were in the end adopted. In his person, he was rather under, than over the average height of the warriors assembled with him. In his dress he was very plain. We all know how fond the Indians are of finery and tinsel, and this is the characteristic of both sexes and all classes. I have seen at least fifty ear-rings in one ear of some more than ordinary pretentious squaw, not to mention the ornaments on her arms and legs. Fops are by no means confined to Broadway or State street; I have seen their legitimate brothers in the wilds of the North West. The freedom of Hole-in-the-Day from this universal passion of his people, showed of itself a superiority and earnestness of character. There was in his appear-