In 1888, the sacred pole of the Omaha was removed from the tribe by a part-Omaha and anthropologist, Francis La Flesche, and taken to the Peabody Museum of Harvard University. In 1989, the museum returned the pole to the tribe. In February 1898, the sacred white buffalo hide and associated pipe were stolen from the tribe. After changing hands several times, they ended up in the Heye Museum of the American Indian and in 1991 the museum returned the sacred hide and pipe to the tribe. Finally, in 1991, bones of ancient Omaha excavated in the late 1930s and early 1940s, and held by the University of Nebraska, were...
band frequently coincided, and at different times the number of villages in a band varied from two to five or six, each comprising forty to two hundred lodges and ranging in population from eight hundred to thirty-five hundred. At an earlier period the number of villages was apparently greater and the population of each much smaller.