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1879

BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY
CATALOGUE OF MANUSCRIPTS

Stock Algonquian

Language Fox

Dialect

Description: (words, vocabulary, dictionary, grammar, text, legends, notes)

Collector Dr. Michelson

Place Tama, Ia.

Date

Remarks 8 legends; listed on Card No. 2 in File.

A long time ago
when there were
a lot of men,
women and child-
ren, there was one
certain child, a boy
who was very bad.
And his father
use to whip him
nearly to death,
but it done no
good, it would
make him, mean
all the more. So
one day this boy
took sick and
died. God, had taken
him away. In the
first place it was

his child. But later
one of the head
chief's wife had a
child, and every one
was sure it was
the same child. As
it looked just like
the naughty little
boy that died, and
acted like him. So
every one said it
was he, born again
to a different family.

- 2 -

And he was to be-
come a brave warrior,
these people that
raised him treated
him very kind
and would not
abuse him for
any thing. He grew

big right away,
and was very bright.

It was this boy
that was going to
cause a lot of
trouble for the Mes-
quias - he was
going to get them
in bad right along.
Then he became a
young man.

All the young men
would fast often
but he refused to
fast. He would al-
ways ask why
his father wanted
him to fast. The
father said all
warriors fasted be-
cause it gave them
dreams of what

would happen ahead.

- 3 -

But he said, why
I dream all kinds
of dreams every
night why should
I have to fast.

So it was about
time to go on a
war path, all the
young men fasted
for four days straight. Then they all
gussed over this
young man, the
Chief's son because
he had not fasted
at all. So they all
started on the
war path to look
for the enemy.

soon they came to
a Sioux village.
Here this young
man that never
fasted killed most
of the Sioux S.

-4-

This young man's
name was - Ke-
ta-wa-ba-sa-ya-
meaning (old time
bear skin) and
every once in awhile
about every four
days he would go
out and seek for
the enemy. He
would come back
home with out
seeing any thing
about their enemy.
So the others would

fuss at him - he -
cause he would
not fast, He would
always say there
was no use to
fast for dreams
because he had
many kinds of
dreams every night.

- 5 -

as they said, he
was naughty and
would not mind
he would not stay
home, he kept
running out all
the time. These
others would go
away just at cer-
tain times, so the
enemy would not

find them first.

But this young man would go away off all the time. He would not mind no one. But this young man had a friend in the camp name Na-sa-li-by-a-ta- (it is just a name there is no meaning to it) Then he told his friend I won't stop going out so I wish for you to go along with me.

I won't stop till we have killed all the Sioux's on the earth or they will kill us all.

"yes," he said "I will
do that." I will go
with you here after.
6.

Then We - pa - ke - a -
began to go all
around to different
tribes, as he could
talk any language,
then the Chief said
now you be the
Chief - so he said
alright, what will
I have to do, just
sit down all the
time. So he became
Chief - and sat
all day long -
The next day he

- 7 -

stepped out, he
said oh oh my -
it is hard to be
a chief. So he went
home he said "I
will not be a
chief." As these
men were coming
back from their
journey, some Sioux
were just about
to attack the village
they got there just
in time to kill
them all. This young
man was the one
who was the bravest
and killed them all.
They laughed because
their chief was gone.

8.

They said, "We -
sa - be - a - is
naughty." He
wanted to be a
chief then he ran
away. We - sa -
be - a - went to all
the different tribes
and gave tobacco
and smoked with
them, Till one
day a large band
of their enemy came
and attacked them
so the big war
went on in the
camp.

- 9 -

So the big war
was on, all the

old men fought
first while the
young men begin
to fight later.

Soon they had
not fought very
long when all
the old men were
killed, then, old
time bear skin,
was going to
jump around
and clean the
bunch but one
said "I will, I
know all about how
this war is going
to come out, so
he went forward
once more,

10 -

"Since I was a boy
I knew all this
was going to hap-
pen, I had a
vision of this very
thing that is going
on," he said, "But
he didn't quite
know all about it.
Old time bear skin,
really was the one
who knew what
to do, but just
because he never
had fasted no one
would listen to
him. The fighting
was getting worse
and they seem to
be getting the
reverse of it too."

One of these young men insisted on not trying to fight first, as they was about to get beat, just then came their friends the French, the French done their best in trying to help them in their battle. They all began to get tired out and give up, they were about even, then, one of these men, that about their sacred dress so he ran and

got the drum and
pounded on it and
sang. Soon they
got the best of the
enemy.

- 12 -

Then they defeated
the enemy so they
were all happy. &
they had a big
dance and gave
tobacco to their
drum. It was about
the last battle they
had, it was after
Columbus - had come
into our Country,
all this was
going on. Then
after the big fight
and dances they

were all so tired, they
all fell down and
went fast to sleep.

- 13 -

They called the drum
their grand father,
and gave tobacco to
it every once in
awhile, because they
believe it to be a
god they said it
had saved their
lives, it was in
the fall, then it
began to snow
as if it were in
the month of
what is now call-
ed January. The
Indians use to say
the middle of winter.
that was the time

different tribes came
and fought in the
camp of these people.
13

Then after there was
peace in the camp -
some believed in
the drum, and others
in the devil. So
there was quite a
discussion about the
drum. Then they
separated into two
bands. one group
went away toward
the east, and another
toward west. But
these drum people
that went east were
happy, but the
other band had
bad luck and other

tribes fought with
them and nearly
killed them all.

- 14 -

So this other band
called the devils
band had every
kind of bad luck.
They were nearly
all killed by the
enemies. Then they
cried all the time
in sorrow and all
fasted and fasted.
Even babe's in
cradle's had to
fast they would
make them go
with breast food
for nearly ten
days at a time.

and left hanging
near a tree, that
is what was told
was done to tiny
babies in this devil
band. what they
done to poor little
babies. -15-

So this is the end
about the baby story
and these grown up
people, kept on
with bad happen-
ings, one day some
boys and girls were
out looking for
wild berries when
some Sioux came
along and killed
them, and took
their scalps along.

It was not hardly
safe to go and
cut wood, they
would get killed -
so one day the men
said "we must go
on a war path, and
look for our enemies,
it isn't safe to
step out any more."
So away they went
they hadn't gone very
far when they met
a band of enemies
who killed them
all but two of the
fast runners. -16-

But altho these
two ran away
they turned back
and sneaked on

them when they
saw they were not
coming. Then just
two of these men
in anger went
right up to the
Sioux who were
out on a war path
and killed all
but one. And this
one they took
back home and
abused him for
what the other had
done. In each
camp there were
about a thousand
Sioux and about
five thousand fox
when there use to
be a lot of them

before the Sioux
killed most of them
And this ⁻¹⁷ young
man name, all
time bear skin,
was in the band
he said, he would
try to look for
the enemy, so he
started out, as he
was in a fight
he broke his bow
and arrow, then
he was caught,
and his friend
followed and he
was caught also,
and after they
found out their
two young men
were captured they

turned loose the
pions they had
captured. 18 -
Then they tied
old time bear
skin, up with
his friend. as
they were both
caught by the
end of the pions.
as they were tied
to a tree. one old
man said, to
his friend name,
(na-sa-be-bya-ta)
this looks just like
my son I lost I
shall let him loose
and keep him for
my son," so just
old time bear - was

left tied to a tree
with some dried
bark, his friend
was let loose. 19-
One old man
stepped up as if
to light him and
said, "Now, I am
going to warm up
the village." Just
as he was going to
set old time bear on
fire, he got loose,
took away the old
man's bow and
arrows and whipped
him good and hard.
"I will warm up
two villages with
you," said, old time
bear, in his anger.

he tied this old man up and burnt him to death.

20 - Then he got away and ran home, his friend was already taken to the camp to be a son, he was given a wife soon as he got in camp, he was kept in all the time, he wasn't allowed to go away. But he wasn't abused they treated him kind as he looked so much like a boy that was lost from that camp,

Then, when this
other man got
back home he
told them about
it, then they
said, they would
worship the drum.

21 -

So certain men
were sent out to
fix the drum
up and get ^{it} in
shape. Then they
had their big dance
and worship to
the grand father
they called the
drum, then after
it was all over
the men went
out to fight.

they defeated the
ones they saw,
so won the battle
so they got busy
and cut scalps,
and brought home
a lot of scalps,
so they always
believed so strong
in the sacred
drum 1-22-

after they made
the drum things
turned out different
they seem to win
all battles, it was
then they could go
about hunting
and could step
out for word and
be safe, but before

the women could
not step out, nor
children could
not go out to look
for berries or things
to eat. - 2 3 - But
now everything
turned out different.
Then this young
man began to
fast and fast as
he never before
would fast. He
always said, he
didn't need to.
But now he thought
he would begin to,
that he thought he
would have to.
for all that had
taken place even

this' things were
not so bad as
they were. He
would go out to
look for the enemy
but he never saw
any one.

-24- So the
last time he went
out he saw some
Pione and fought
but he killed only
one and this he
took the scalp.
In these days they
use to use Clubs
to fight they made
sharp war Clubs.
Then it was time
for them to move
camp as it was

getting time to move
away. They planned
to move far off-
where they would
live happy and
in peace. 25 So
as they were mov-
ing along they
met some Indians
that were friendly
and they talked
with them. This
other band had
some thing with
them that look
strange they ask
ed what it is,
and the man
said it "was
very powerful, it
was a gun" So

he showed this
tribe that was
moving away by
shooting at a
tree. They were
frightened. He said
"it can kill a deer
in one shot." 26 -
so they asked him
to shoot a little
dog they had, it
shot the little
dog to pieces.
So they admired
the gun very much
it was so power-
ful - then they
began to trade all
their trinkets for
it and the best
things they had.
Then they moved

on very happy.
They said, "now
no one can whip
us, any more."
as they were going
on to where they
were going to live

- 27 -

they were attacked
by some one again
then they came
to a mountain
of rock's, in this
the picture is
drawn how the
mountains of
rock was where
they fled and
hid. Here they

got away and
were safe. All
this was moun-
tains of rock.

Then after they
passed these they
were free, here
they went on
north. 28 - when
they got north
they had a fight
with the me-mo-
mince. They hid
in a place that
is drawn there
where it is sur-
rounded by hills.
here they lived
in the middle

and they weren't
bothered much.
by the me - no -
rain - ee - one
morning early, the
leader went about
hollering let us
all go out on a
bear hunt we
are out of food.

-29-

So the young men
said "a - tta!"
meaning "alright"
they all got ready
in a hurry.
And the women
were busy build-
ing their bark

huts, or houses.
So the men went
all directions to
hunt for the bears,
as they were hunt-
ing - they caught
two men spy-
ing on them but
they killed them
both, after they
killed them they
turned to stone,
the men they
killed, so this is
the end of old
time bear skin).



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