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NAA MS 4000
Origin of Indian Corn- Blood Clot Boy Legend 1896
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BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY
CATALOGUE OF MANUSCRIPTS

VII B

No. 4000

Stock Iroquoian

Language Seneca

Dialect

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

Collector J.N.B.Hewitt

Place

Date

1896

Remarks

Legend, "Origin of Indian Corn - Blood Clot Boy."

Two versions, 4 pp, and 6 pp. *more*

↓
2 copies of same version (EC)

Fiction: [Probably not originally
Iroquoian.] Composite
Blood Gilt Bay

"Origin of Corn." 2p.

"Stone Cache" for corn is
foreign note; probably
Southern.

Chufaa is Muskogean
Chufaa, who is?

Bastons Rouges
 L'etymologie
 de ce nom vient
 de plusieurs
 poteaux peints de
 rouge, plantés
 dans cet endroit
 pour servir de limite
 entre la nation Comanche
 et les Apaches.
 onicas et Oumas
 245, Vol 6,
 Margry

my

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \frac{2}{15} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{20} \\
 \frac{2}{15} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{4}{30} + \frac{5}{30} = \frac{9}{30} \\
 \frac{9}{30} + \frac{1}{20} = \frac{12}{40} + \frac{2}{40} = \frac{14}{40} = \frac{7}{20}
 \end{array}$$

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Origin of Indian Corn.

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Blood Clot Bay, etc.

An old woman lived alone, she walked a certain path till it became hard and smooth. At one place a log lay across the trail. One day as she stepped over this log she saw a drop of blood in her track. Stooping down she carefully scraped up the dirt with the blood and carried it home, putting the blood and dirt in a jar. Occasionally she looked into the jar and at last she discovered that it was growing. After several months she saw that it was beginning to assume the form of a human being. In ten months it developed into a boy whom she took out of the jar and dressed. The boy grew and the old woman made him bow and arrows, telling him to go and kill birds; he went and killed birds. When he grew older, she said, "go and kill squirrels;" he went and killed squirrels. Again, she said, "Go and kill deer;" he went and killed deer. One day, on his return from hunting, the old woman gave him new food to eat. The boy wondered where she obtained this delightful food. He asked her, but she refused to tell him.

One day she warned him never to go beyond the mountain which could be seen from her house. He thought that something

strange must be beyond the mountain. He went there however, and saw a lovely sight in the valley beyond the mountain. When he returned home that evening he sat by himself looking lonesome. The old woman said, "You have been beyond the mountain. I will make you a dress and let you go. Go to the woods and bring me a singing bird." He brought her the singing bird. Then she made him a flute and taught him how to play on it. Then she made him a head dress and put it on his head. He played on the flute and the singing bird flew on the head-dress and sang to the music of the flute.

Then the old woman said, "When you go beyond the mountain you will come to a stream, and the first house beyond it is the lodge belonging to three women. The woman who cooks something for you to eat will become your wife. Marry her, and when you return to see me, all will be changed. You will not see me. You will see something growing on the spot when my lodge now stands. When you come again it will be ripe. Build a rock cache and gather it into it. Come when you need something to eat and take your food out of the rock cache."

He went beyond the mountain, crossing the stream and stopping at the first lodge beyond it and saw three women therein. One of them offered him food which she had cooked,

Afterwards she became his wife. He lived with her people and from he saw that they were suffering lack of food. He said to them, "Follow me to the stream." They followed him to it. He took some pieces of old logs and threw them in the stream. He played on his flute and the bird sang. Soon the fish came to the surface of the water and the people shot them with arrows and they had afterwards a great feast.

Chufee saw the young man lay aside his flute and headdress, and he stole them and fled. The people pursued and found him trying to play on the flute, but he made no music. He struck at the singing bird because it had refused to sing, injuring thereby its feathers. Chufee thought he could win a wife if he could only make music. He failed however. The people took from him the flute and headdress and the singing bird, giving them back to the young man.

One day the young man and his wife visited his former home. Behold, all was changed. The lodge was gone, where it had stood some tall green stalks were growing. The old woman was not there. Again he and his wife visited this place and they found the stalks sere and the grain hard. He built a rock cache and gathered the grain into it. Again he returned and found all the birds gathered around the cache. They

were trying to tear the cache down. The owl said, "Let me knock it down." Then he flew at it and struck it with his head. He made himself hump-shouldered by the blow. The eagle said, "Let me knock it over." He sailed at the house but flew over it. The hawk said, "I can knock it down." He flew at and struck the cache. He knocked it down. The blow drove his neck in and he since has a short neck. The birds all came and ate up the grain. The man saw some crows flying and fighting in the air. They let some grains fall. He took them and carried them to his new home. He planted the grains and from them sprang corn.

Copied Blood Clot Boy and
The Origin of Indian Corn. Seneca
1896

An old woman lived alone, she walked a certain path till it became hard and smooth. At one place a log lay across the trail. One day as she stepped over this log she saw a drop of blood in her track. Stooping down she carefully scraped up the dirt ^{with} ~~around~~ the blood and carried it home, ~~she put~~ ^{putting} the blood and dirt in a jar. ~~She~~ ^{at last, she} looked in the jar occasionally and discovered that it was growing. After several months she saw that it was beginning to look like a human being. In ten months it developed into a boy, ^{whom} she took it out of the jar and dressed it.

The boy grew. ^{the old woman} ~~she~~ made him a bow and arrows, and ^{telling} him to go and kill birds; ~~he~~ went and killed birds.

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He thought that that must be something strange beyond the mountain. He went there ~~and~~ saw a lovely sight in the valley beyond the mountain.

When he returned home he sat by himself and looked lonesome.

^{The old woman} she said "You have been beyond the mountain. I will make you a dress and let you go. Go to the woods and bring me a singing bird."

He brought ^{her} the singing bird ^{there}. She made him a flute and taught him how to play on it. ^{there} she

She made him a headdress and put it on his head. He played on the flute and the singing bird flew on the headdress and sang to the music of the flute. ~~She said:~~ ^{Then the old woman.}

^{said} "When you go beyond the mountain you will come to a stream and the first house beyond ~~the stream~~ st is the ~~house~~ ^{lodge belonging to} of three women. The woman who cooks something for you to eat will become your wife. Marry her, and when you ~~come back~~ ^{return} to see me, all will be changed. You will not see me. You will see something growing ^{on the spot} where my ~~house~~ ^{lodge now} stands. When you come again it will be ripe. Build a rock ~~house~~ ^{cache} and gather it. Come when you need something to eat and take your food out of the rock ~~house~~ ^{cache}."

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