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LONG AGO SERIES

RED FEATHER STORIES

A BOOK OF INDIAN LIFE AND TALES FOR LITTLE READERS

BY

MARGARET E. MORCOMB



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LYONS & CARNAHAN

CHICAGO

NEW YORK

and learns to read, his horizon of contact is vastly widened. Reading puts him in touch with the limitless past—in a stricter sense the real field of history. It is the business of the super-intendent to arrange his history course so that every grade will find in its historical reading the sort of experiences that the pupils can apprehend and appreciate. Naturally the simplest and most childlike belong to the youngest readers.

This book is the first in a series of LONG AGO READERS, planned for the primary grades. Each book will present the life of some people or peoples, with child-life in the foreground. The readers are followed in plan by a three-book series—readers and texts—leading the pupils through the successive steps by which savagery has grown into our American civilization. A teacher's handbook to accompany the primary readers, with suggestive literary, industrial, and play material, is in preparation.

FRANK E. SANFORD,

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

LA GRANGE, ILLINOIS

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RED FEATHER

This is Red Feather.

He is a little Indian boy.

He lives in a wigwam in the forest.

The wigwam is beside the river.

He likes the trees and the water.

He knows where the best nut trees are.

He knows where there is the best fishing.

He likes to live in the forest.



What have you in your hand, Red Feather?

It is a bow and arrow.

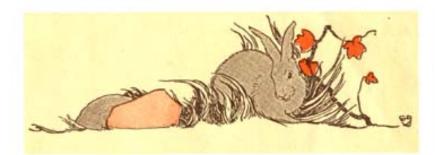
Indians hunt with bows and arrows.

Red Feather can shoot the arrow.

His father, Big Eagle, and the other men are away in the forest, hunting.

Red Feather is learning to hunt, too.

Big Eagle often takes him when he goes hunting. He will try to bring home something to eat.



Sh. Sh. Be very still.

Red Feather is creeping along softly.

He is going hunting in the forest.

What do you see, Red Feather?

Be careful or it will get away.

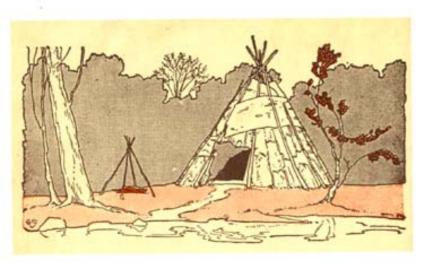
Whiz goes the arrow!

Red Feather will carry a rabbit to the wigwam.

He is very happy to carry home something to eat.

His mother, Morning Star, will cook it for dinner.

Red Feather and his mother are hungry.



RED FEATHER'S HOME

This is Red Feather's home.

It is a wigwam.

It looks like a tent.

Morning Star made the wigwam.

She made it of poles and the bark of the birch tree.

Morning Star cut the long poles.

Then she stuck them in the ground in a circle.

The poles met at the top.

Then Morning Star put long strips of bark over them. She fastened the bark to the poles.

The wigwam is open at the top.

That is to let the smoke out.

Morning Star dug a hole in the ground.

She made a fire in the hole.

In the winter she cooks over this fire.

The smoke goes out through the hole at the top, but it is very smoky in the wigwam.

The door of the wigwam is a flap made of bear skin.

Morning Star shuts the flap to keep out the cold.

Red Feather lives in the wigwam with his father and mother.

Is it not a queer house?



THE CANOE RACE

Do you see the canoe? That is Red Feather's canoe.

He has a paddle in his hand.

His canoe is made of birch bark.

Big Eagle made it.

It is a pretty canoe.

Red Feather likes to paddle his canoe.

He can make it go very fast.

Let us see how fast you can go, Red Feather.



Here are four Indian boys.

Each boy has a canoe.

Each one thinks that his canoe is better than the others.

They are going to race.

One of them is Red Feather.

New you are ready.

One! two! three! go!

Be careful not to break your paddle, Red Feather.

Be careful not to tip over.

Do you think Red Feather will win?



PLAYING WAR

Sometimes Red Feather and his playmates play war.

They paint their faces with red clay.

They want to look fierce.

Now they are going to make war on a hornet's nest.

With a big shout they jump on the nest and then run.

The hornets fly at them. They sting some of the boys.

Red Feather shouts very loud and runs fast.

Little Crow cried when the hornets stung him.

Run into the water, Little Crow.

Hornets cannot go into the water.

Now the boys are going to dance.

Little Crow may not dance.

He cried when the hornets stung him.

Only brave Indians may dance after a battle.

Red Feather is a brave Indian.





WHITE CLOUD

White Cloud is a little Indian girl. She is Red Feather's little sister.

She likes to play with her brother. Sometimes she goes with him to hunt

rabbits.

When he shoots an arrow she runs after it.

White Cloud can run very fast. She can find an arrow in the deep grass. When he wants to go in his canoe, she finds his paddle.

Sometimes she goes in the canoe with him.

White Cloud thinks that Red Feather is a brave Indian.

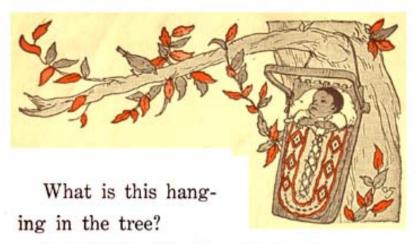
She thinks he is braver than other boys.

White Cloud and her mother are going to the spring to get some water. They carry water in bags made of skin.

The spring is not far from the wigwam.

Morning Star and White Cloud each have
a bag.

Will Red Feather help to carry the water? Oh no! That is the women's work.



It is White Cloud's baby brother.

He is tied in a cradle.

The cradle is made of a piece of bark.

It has pretty beads on it.

It swings in the breeze.

The baby watches the birds and the leaves.

When White Cloud goes out to play she straps the cradle on her back.

She must take care of her baby brother while her mother is hoeing the corn.

This is not White

Cloud's baby brother.

It is her doll.

She calls it her papoose.

That is what the

Indian mothers call their babies.

White Cloud's papoose is made of wood.

It has a face of deer skin and eyes made of beads.

What queer hair it has! The hair is made of feathers.

The papoose doll is tied in a cradle.

White Cloud hangs it on the tree as she does her baby brother.

Sometimes she straps it on her back.

She thinks it is pretty.

PLAYING HOUSE

Sometimes White Cloud and her little girl friends play keeping house.

They find a clean, dry place under the trees.

They pick up sticks to make a wigwam.

They cover the wigwam with soft pieces

of birch bark.

They find little pieces of moss that look like stalks of corn.

They plant them in the ground and play that they are hoeing corn.

Then they gather little sticks and scrape them with sharp stones.

They play that they are cleaning fish. They gather more sticks and play they are making a fire. Then they cook their fish.

playhouse.

They made it under a low maple tree by the river.

THE BRUSH PLAYHOUSE

White Cloud and her playmates made a

They stuck a forked stick in the ground near the tree.

They put another stick across from the fork to a low limb of the tree.

They leaned some poles against the stick.

They covered the poles with leafy

branches from the maple tree.

They laid them like shingles on a roof so that the rain would run off.

Every day they play in the brush house.

Sometimes Indian families live in brush houses in summer.

MAKING INDIAN CLOTHES

One morning Red Feather and White Cloud were made very happy.

Their father came back from hunting.

He had been gone two days.

He brought a deer and a bear.

Red Feather and White Cloud were very hungry.

Now they can have plenty of meat.

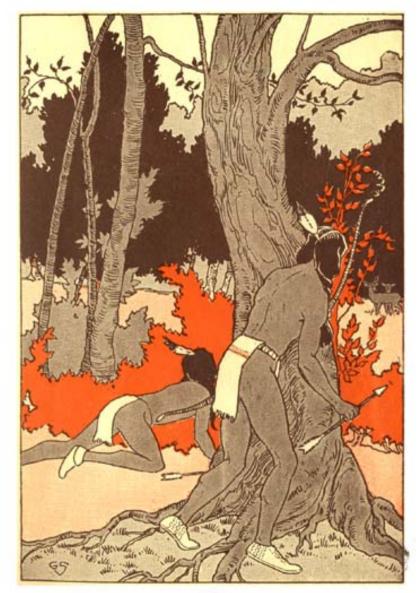
They will have meat for breakfast.

They will have deer skin for some new clothes.

They will have a bear skin blanket to keep them warm when they are sleeping.

Red Feather and White Cloud danced for joy when they saw their father.

They called to their mother and ran to help carry the bear and the deer.





Morning Star and White Cloud are very busy to-day.

They are scraping the bear skin to make it soft.

First they fasten the skin to the ground with pegs.

Morning Star and White Cloud each have a scraper made of bone.

They scrape off the fat.

They roll the skin up.

After a while they will wash it and scrape it again.

Then it will be soft like cloth.



THE NEW DRESS

White Cloud is a very happy little girl.

Morning Star is making her a new dress.

She has no cloth.

She has no needle.

She has no thread.

She will make the dress out of doe skin.

A doe is a mother deer.

The doe skin is very soft.

Morning Star will cut the dress out of the doe skin with a sharp stone. She will use a sharp piece of bone with a hole in it for a needle.

She will use strips of skin for thread. She will cut a fringe at the bottom.

White Cloud wants her mother to trim it with porcupine quills and beads.



Indian boys and girls have no shoes.

When it is not cold they go barefooted.

Sometimes they wear moccasins.

Moccasins are made out of buck skin.

A buck skin is very tough and strong.

Big Eagle and Red Feather wear moccasins when they walk in the forest.

They can walk very softly.

The deer can not hear them.



THE PORCUPINE

One day Big Eagle came along the forest trail carrying something in his hand.

It was as large and almost as round as a pumpkin.

It was black and white.

Big Eagle held it out at arm's length.

He was afraid it would touch his body.

Red Feather and White Cloud laughed, when they saw it. They were careful not to touch it.

It was a porcupine covered with sharp quills.

Big Eagle had found it in a hollow tree.

The porcupine did not try to run away.

It rolled itself into a ball. It stuck out its sharp quills.

The porcupine has a short tail.

Eagle carried it by the tail. Some of the guills are white. Some of

them are black. Red Feather wanted some white quills

to put on his moccasins. White Cloud wanted some quills, too.

quills to put on her new dress.

She found some red ones and some blue

gather some berries.

The next day White Cloud went to

She put each kind in a dish with some water.

dry.

new dress.

Big

ones.

She put some stones in the fire to make them hot.

She dropped a hot stone in each dish. Then she put some porcupine quills in each dish too.

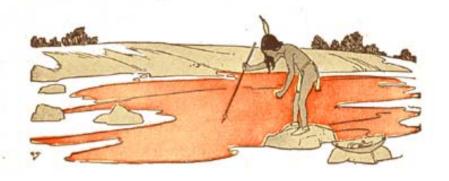
The next day all the guills in one dish were bright red.

The quills in the other dish were blue. White Cloud laid them in the sun to

Soon they were ready to put on her

28

She wanted some red quills and some blue



FISHING

Red Feather has a spear.

The spear head or point is a very sharp piece of stone.

Big Eagle made the spear head.

Red Feather tied it to a stick with a string made of skin.

Red Feather is going fishing.

He will stand on a stone in the stream to watch for fish.

It takes a long time to catch enough fish for supper with a spear. Morning Star says that White Cloud must clean the fish.

That is the women's work.

White Cloud has no knife.

Her mother will give her a sharp stone.

She will take the fish down to the stream and clean them.

Be sure to wash them, White Cloud.

You must hurry.

Big Eagle and Red Feather are very hungry.

Your mother wants the fish to cook for supper.

They will taste very good.





COOKING THE FISH

Morning Star's fire has gone out.

She has no fire to cook the fish.

Red Feather can make a fire while White Cloud is cleaning fish.

Big Eagle taught him how.

He must find some dry, spongy wood, and rub off very fine pieces in his hand.

He has two pieces of flint.

He strikes them together.

He catches the sparks in the dry wood and blows them.

Soon they make a flame. Now Morning Star can cook the fish. Morning Star puts a log on each side of the fire.

She puts some green sticks across the logs over the fire.

Green sticks will not burn.

She lays the fish across the green sticks.

After awhile they are cooked.

Morning Star has no table, no chairs, no plates, no forks. Red Feather and White Cloud take the fish in their hands and eat them.



GATHERING THE CORN

This morning there was a white frost on the ground.

The maple leaves are turning red.

The leaves of Indian corn are turning yellow.

The ears of corn are ripe now.

It is time for the Indian women to gather them.

Morning Star is pulling off the ears of corn and carrying them to the wigwam.

White Cloud is helping her.

After a while there will be a large pile of corn in the wigwam.

Red Feather likes parched corn to eat.

He puts the kernels of corn on a hot stone to parch them.

He must be careful not to burn them.

When he goes into the forest to hunt he carries kernels of parched corn in a bag for his dinner. Parched corn tastes good in the forest.

Morning Star hangs some of the ears of corn in the sun to dry.

When they are dry she puts the kernels in a big wooden dish and pounds them to make corn meal.

White Cloud helps her pound the meal. It takes a long time to make it fine. White Cloud gets very tired.



BAKING THE BREAD

Morning Star is going to bake some bread.

White Cloud is watching her.

The oven is out of doors.

It is a very queer oven.

It is made of stones and clay.

Morning Star makes a fire in the oven.

She puts water on some corn meal and makes little loaves of bread.

When the oven is hot she will rake out the fire.

Then she will put the loaves in the oven.

She will hang a skin at the door of the oven.

After a while the bread will have a nice brown color.

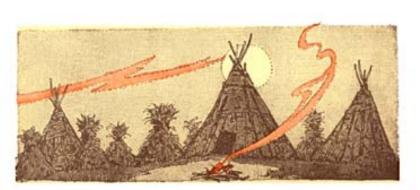
Then it is baked enough.

What do you think Red Feather and White Cloud will have to eat?

Would you like corn bread without butter?

Indians could not live in the winter without corn to eat.

Did you ever see Indian wigwams in a corn field in the moonlight?



STORING FOOD FOR WINTER

To-day White Cloud and Morning Star

are gathering beans and pumpkins.

They grow in the corn field.

The bean plants grow up the stalks of

White Cloud picks off the bean pods

and puts them in a bag.

corn.

After a while she will shell them and

or roasts them to eat.

put them in a dish and bake them in the oven.

Morning Star boils beans with kernels of corn.

She puts pieces of pumpkin on a string like beads to dry.

She hangs these up in the wigwam.

In winter she boils the pieces of pumpkin

It is very cold to-day. The wind is blowing from the north.

Winter is coming.

Morning Star is trying out the fat of the bear to eat in winter.

The leaves are falling off the trees. Pretty soon it will snow.

hiding them under the leaves.

When the snow is deep they will dig up the acorns and eat them.

It is hard to find food in the woods when the snow is deep and the wind is cold.

Sometimes Indian children have to dig

up the acorns that the squirrels have

The squirrels are gathering acorns and

hidden under the snow.

They grind them up and eat them.



Big Eagle does not help to gather the corn.

He hunts for deer and bear.

Morning Star cuts the meat into small strips and hangs them to dry. Some of the strips she smokes over a fire.

She likes to have plenty of dried meat and fat to eat in the winter.

She scrapes and cleans the skins until they are soft and warm.

Indians put bear skin blankets over their backs when it is cold.

Red Feather and White Cloud do not need much clothing in summer.

It is so warm that they go barefooted and bareheaded.

Red Feather wears a belt-string and clout. His clout is a piece of deer skin with a fringe at each end. It looks like an apron in front. It looks like an apron in back.

Sometimes White Cloud wears only a skirt.

Big Eagle wears a belt-string and clout like Red Feather, and moccasins.

Morning Star wears moccasins and a dress without any sleeves.

Her dress is straight and has no belt. White Cloud has a straight dress, too. When the North Wind and Frost come, Red Feather and White Cloud are cold.

They ask their mother for their moccasins and jackets.

When it snows they pull on their leggins and put a bear skin over their jackets to keep warm.

Red Feather's jacket has two pretty blue stars made of porcupine quills. It has rows of white beads across the front.

White Cloud's jacket has one white star.

They like to wear beads on their leggins and moccasins, too.

It keeps Morning Star busy to make clothes for her family.

It keeps Big Eagle busy to get plenty of deer skin.

THE SNOW SHOES

It snowed hard last night.

Now Red Feather can use the snow shoes Big Eagle made for him.

The drifts are very deep.

Snow shoes keep him from sinking into the snow.

He can walk on top of the snow.

Indians can not walk far through the forest in winter without snow shoes.

The men use them for hunting.

The deer sink into the deep snow and the hunters catch them.



COASTING

As soon as the snow packs, Red Feather and his playmates go coasting.

They slide down the bank of the river onto the ice.

What do you suppose they coast on?

Sometimes they use ribs of a bear or buffalo. Sometimes they slide on a buffalo skin stretched on sticks.

Are not those queer sleds?

Why do Indian boys use such queer things to coast on?

Red Feather thinks it is fun.

The Indian village is astir very early this morning. What is going to happen?

All the men have spears, or bows and arrows.

No, they are not going to war. They are going hunting.

Last night an Indian came to the village, who told them that there was a herd of buffaloes far to the west.

The men were very glad. They did not often see buffalo.

It is a long way off. But it has been cold for a long time and the Indians are hungry for meat.

Big Eagle is going.

Red Feather hopes he will bring back plenty of buffalo meat.





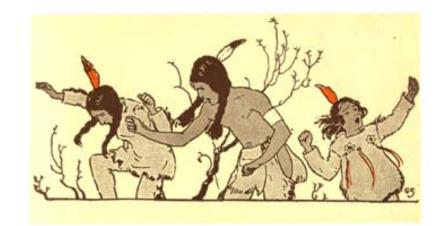
See who is coming!

The hunters are returning to the village. Everybody is shouting. They have brought plenty of meat.

Everybody is running to meet them.

They will have meat for supper. They will have plenty of buffalo skins to sleep under. They will not be cold again this winter.

Every one is very happy.



The Indians are still shouting and making a loud noise.

Now they are dancing around in a great circle. There is a big fire in the middle of the circle.

The body of a large buffalo is on a stout stick over the fire. After it is roasted they will have a feast.

Everybody is hungry.

That is why they are shouting and dancing.

Indians love to tell the stories of their hunts. They tell them many, many times.

They never get tired of telling hunting stories.

Next summer, when sitting around the camp fire, the hunters will tell stories about the buffalo hunt.

They had to walk a long long way.

The snow was deep.

The buffaloes could not run fast.

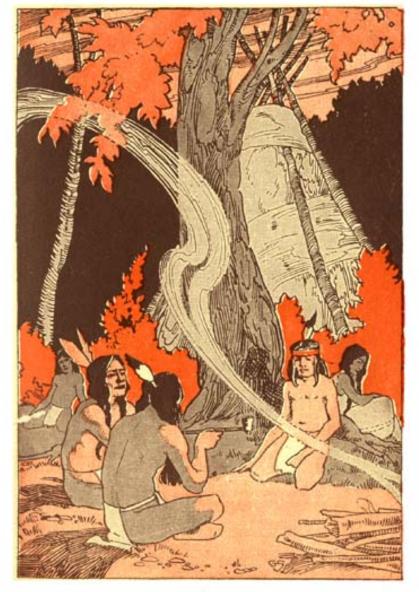
The hunters had snow shoes.

They had plenty of arrows and spears.

They had to tie poles together for sleds to drag the buffaloes back to the village.

It was a very long way, but Indians never get tired.

Red Feather wants to grow fast so that he may go on a journey for buffaloes.





PICTURE WRITING

What is Big Eagle doing?

He is painting pictures of Indians and buffaloes on his wigwam.

He is telling the story of the buffalo hunt.

He cannot write as we do. He writes a story by making pictures.

Sometimes they make pictures on skins, and sometimes on flat stones.

Can you read Big Eagle's story?

In winter when the hunting was poor, Morning Star thought she would like some fresh fish.

Big Eagle told Red Feather to come with him.

The ice on the river was hard, but Big Eagle and Red Feather chipped a hole in the ice with their hand-axes. It took a long time, for the ice was thick.

Then they held their spears ready to strike.

Pretty soon a fish came to the hole for a few mouthfuls of fresh air.

Whiz went the spear! And one fish lay on the ice.

Soon Morning Star had enough for supper.

TELLING STORIES

Winter is the story time for Indian boys and girls. They are always ready to listen to a story.

Morning Star says that in the summer the leaves on all the trees have ears. When the wind blows they whisper secrets to each other.

Indians must be careful what they tell in summer.

In winter the leaves are buried deep in the snow. The forest is very still. Then the Indians gather round their fires and tell stories.

Big Eagle likes war stories best.

Morning Star knows stories of gentle wood folks. Sometimes she tells of Glooscap or the North Wind. Once a young deer lay on the soft leaves in the forest.

A white speck dropped slowly through the air on to a dry leaf.

"Who are you?" asked the deer.

"I am a snowflake," said the speck. "I can make the ground all white."

"Oh no, you can't; I can blow you away."

"Then I will bring my brothers. They will shut you up in your bed."

The deer wanted to laugh, but he could only snort.

In the morning the snow was so deep the deer could not walk or run. He had to eat the leaves where he slept, for his breakfast.

GLOOSCAP AND THE BULL-FROG

One day when Glooscap was hunting he came to a stream in the forest.

The water had all dried up.

He was very thirsty.

The forest folk could get no water to drink. They were thirsty.

Then Glooscap walked up the bed of the stream until he came to a dam.

Above the dam he saw a bull-frog almost as big as a mountain. The bull-frog was drinking all the water in the stream himself.

"Will you give me a drink of water?" asked Glooscap.

The bull-frog gave him a little in the bottom of a birchbark cup.

It was so dirty he could not drink it.

"Get it where you can," said the bullfrog in a very deep voice.

So Glooscap stuck his spear into the bull-frog's side. The stream of water from the spear-hole ran all the way down the brook. It filled the brook with water.

After that the forest folk had plenty of water to drink.

Then Glooscap caught the bull-frog in his hand. He squeezed him as hard as he could and threw him into the brook.

He squeezed him so hard that he was full of wrinkles.

And even now you can see the wrinkles in the bull-frog's back.



THE RACCOON AND THE BEES

A raccoon once lived in a hollow tree.

One night he awoke very hungry and started off to find something to eat.

After a while he came to a hollow tree where a swarm of wild bees had stored their honey.

The raccoon liked honey.

He sniffed and sniffed.

Then he climbed the tree and found the bee hole.

What a good time he would have!

Never did honey taste so good.

Then he felt something prick his nose, and he rubbed it very hard with his sticky paw. Something pricked his ear, and he rubbed that too. Something pricked his side, and he rubbed that too.

By that time he had honey all over his fur.

Just then he felt so many stings that he let go of the tree. He rolled up in a ball and fell to the ground. Then he rolled down a long hill.

His sticky fur was all covered with dry leaves. He could not see; and he called for help as loudly as he could. A fox who was passing stopped to look. He was so frightened he ran as fast as his legs could carry him.

A bear who was taking a morning stroll stood up on his hind legs to see what the noise was about.

When he saw the bundle of leaves jumping around, he, too, ran as fast as he could.

Then the raccoon ran, too, until he fell into a lake. After he had washed off all the honey and leaves, he swam ashore and climbed a tree to dry his fur in the morning sun.



The South Wind was lazy and stupid.

One day he saw a beautiful girl in a meadow. Her dress was green and her hair like sunlight.

He came every day to look at her.

One day her head was all white like snow. He thought the North Wind had been playing tricks.

He gave a little puff. The air seemed full of snowflakes, and the beautiful girl was gone.

"Hi! Hi!" laughed the Indian paint brush, "you saw only a dandelion."





BIG EAGLE'S WAR-JACKET

"Show us your war-bonnet and warjacket, Father," said Red Feather.

Big Eagle took down a long strip of skin covered with feathers. He fastened the middle to his forehead and let the ends hang down his back.

"How many battles did you win to get that. Father?"

"Ten," said Big Eagle.

Red Feather always liked to see the jacket.

It was almost covered with bands of bears' claws, strings of wolves' teeth, and tufts of long hair.

"Where did you get the hair, Father?" said the boy.

"Mohawks!" said Big Eagle.

"Where did you get the feathers in your bonnet?"

"Eagles!"

Some day Red Feather will have a warbonnet and war-jacket.



SPRING IS COMING

The sun has been shining brightly every day since the new moon has been in the sky. The South Wind has been blowing for two days.

The snow is all gone in places.

Red Feather and his playmates have found a dry spot where the sun is shining. They are spinning tops.

Some tops are made of wood, some of bone, and some of horn. Red Feather's top is made of horn. Big Eagle made it from the horn of a deer.

Each boy has a string of buck skin tied to a short stick.

He whips his top until it hums.

The boy who keeps his top spinning longest is winner.

He is calling "Spring! Spring!" in a loud voice.

The red squirrel is scolding as hard as he can.

Red Feather heard some wild geese calling as they were flying to the north this morning.

Last night he listened to the little tree frogs across the river.

Red Feather and White Cloud are glad too that spring is here. They will not be cold at night now. They can run about and play every day.

They will soon look for pretty blue flowers in the woods.

Red Feather will soon paddle his canoe again.

CORN PLANTING

When the sun and wind have dried the leaves on the ground, the Indian women set them on fire.

The fire burns the leaves and the ground is bare.

It burns up the bushes and fallen branches. It burns the bark on the roots of the trees so that they die.

Then the sun can shine in and the corn can grow better. Corn grows best in the warm sun.

All the women and boys and girls will help to beat out the fire when it has burned enough.

The women will dig holes in the black ground with sticks. They will drop some corn in each hole. They will put pumpkin seeds and beans in each hole too, and cover them with a little loose earth.

Sometimes they put a fish in each hole to make the corn grow better.

Then the little plants come up and grow fast in the warm sun.

The corn plants grow straight and tall, like Indian boys.

The bean plants can not grow straight up. They must climb the stalks of corn.

The pumpkin vines do not try to grow up at all. They keep close to the ground.

Morning Star and White Cloud like to watch them grow.



THE PIPE

Big Eagle often sits by the door of his wigwam and smokes.

His pipe is made of stone.

It took him two days to make it.

He found a piece of stone that he could cut with a flint knife. He cut it into the shape of a pipe and then rubbed it with another stone to make it smooth. Then he drilled a hole in each end.

His drill was a piece of flint with a sharp point, tied to a stick.

He rolled the stick between his hand and his leg. With the other hand he held the pipe against the point of the drill. He had to make the drill go very fast.

He put a piece of reed in one hole for the stem.

Big Eagle can not cut down a tree.

His ax is made of stone. It has no handle, and it is not very sharp.

He uses it to cut sticks and poles, and to make holes in the ice.

He has a little ax with a handle, but he uses it only when he goes to war. He calls it a tomahawk.

He puts feathers on the handle of his tomahawk.

His knife is a sharp piece of flint.

He makes almost all of his tools and weapons with his flint knife.

Morning Star and White Cloud use flint knives to clean fish.





THE CANOE

Red Feather likes to help his father make a birch bark canoe.

They find a large straight birch tree.

Big Eagle makes a long cut in the bark down the side of the tree. Next he cuts around the tree at the top and at the bottom of the long cut.

Then he peels the bark off very carefully.

With his hand-ax he cuts some cedar branches.

His needle is made of a piece of bone. With the needle and thread he sews a piece of cedar to each end of the birch bark. Then the bark will not split.

With his flint knife he cuts each end of the bark to look like a canoe. Then he sews the ends with thread of larch root.

He bends some of the cedar limbs to make ribs for the canoe.

Red Feather pricks some bubbles in the bark of the balsam tree. He squeezes out some pitch.

Big Eagle fills up the cracks and the needle holes in the canoe with pitch. Then it is ready to go into the water.



INDIAN BASKETS

Morning Star can make pretty baskets.

In the springtime she goes to the meadow by the river to gather sweet grass. She hangs the grass up to dry. In a little while it becomes brown and smells very sweet.

Some of the bunches of grass she colors red with berries, as she did the porcupine quills. Then she weaves the sweet grass into baskets with brown and red figures.

Morning Star can make baskets of bark too She covers them with pretty figures of porcupine quills. When Morning Star needs a dish to cook in, she makes it out of wood.

With a hand-ax and a wooden wedge she splits off a piece of fallen tree.

She scrapes out a hollow in the piece with a flint knife. Then she puts coals of fire on the wood to burn it a little and make it scrape more easily.

Morning Star must work at it until it is deep enough and quite smooth. Then she will use the dish to make hominy for dinner.

After it is filled with water and broken kernels of corn, she drops hot stones into the water until the hominy is cooked enough.

Sometimes Morning Star makes dishes out of shells and buffalo horns.



WAMPUM

Indians who live by the Big Sea Water gather shells and make beads of them.

They like the hard clam shell best because it makes the pretty purple beads.

Little periwinkles make white beads.

The Indians break off pieces of shell and rub them on stones. They make them long and round like pipe stems. Then they cut them into short pieces.

They drill a hole from end to end with a tiny piece of flint, and then string them on sinews, or white threads that come from the legs of the deer. It is a great deal of work and takes a long time to make beads.

Indians call beads wampum, and use them for money.

They trade strings of wampum for deer skins and beaver skins.

They weave strings of wampum into belts, which they wear across the shoulders.

With white and purple beads they weave pretty figures in the wampum belts.

Big Eagle wears a wampum belt across his shoulders.

Red Feather will wear a wampum belt when he is older.

THE VOYAGE TO THE BIG SEA WATER

One morning Big Eagle started on a long voyage in his canoe and took Red Feather with him.

They went to the Big Sea Water to get wampum beads.

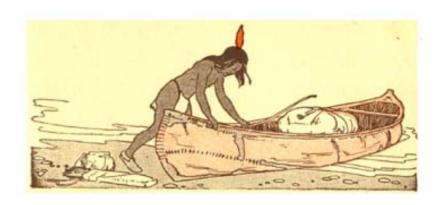
Red Feather laughed and danced because he was so glad.

He had never seen the Big Sea Water.

They took some parched corn and dried venison. Each of them took a bear skin to sleep in. They took their bows and arrows and a spear.

Big Eagle took his tomahawk and stone pipe. He took a bundle of beaver skins to trade for wampum.

Morning Star and White Cloud carried the things down to the river.



Red Feather packed the canoe.

Then they called goodbye to Morning Star and White Cloud and started.

Red Feather knelt in the bow of the canoe and watched carefully for rocks and sticks.

Big Eagle knelt in the stern to guide the canoe.

Soon they came to some rapids. The water runs very fast over rapids, and often there are sharp rocks sticking out.

They must be very careful.

If the canoe should hit a rock it would tip over. Perhaps it would tear a hole in the side.

They have to paddle hard and watch closely.

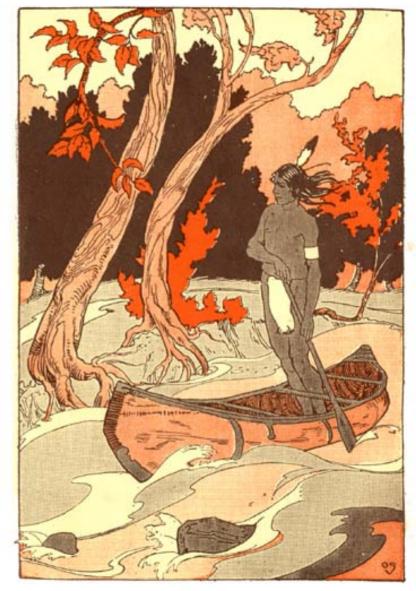
Red Feather thinks it is great fun to shoot rapids in a canoe.

They paddled all day, and went down the stream very fast.

At sunset they pulled the canoe out on a dry bank. Big Eagle made a fire while Red Feather speared some fish. They found some berries and then had supper.

They had paddled hard and were very hungry.

In a little while it was dark. Red Feather rolled himself up in a bear skin, beside a log, and went to sleep.



In the morning they ate some venison and corn, and started.

They paddled all the morning.

When the sun was highest they came to a wide place in the river. They could see the Big Sea Water. It looked very big and blue like the sky. They pulled the canoe out on the sand.

Some Indians came to meet them.

Big Eagle and the other Indians sat down and smoked their pipes.

Then Big Eagle gave them the beaver skins, and they gave him a basket of wampum.

Red Feather looked in the sand for shells. He found many pretty ones, much prettier than the clam shells in the river. He put them in the bow of the canoe. Then he picked up round stones and threw them in the water.

Soon they slipped the canoe back into the river and started home.

It took three days to get home. It took longer to get home than it did to go because it is hard to paddle up a swift river. Sometimes they had to carry the canoe around rapids.



Red Feather carried the pack and Big Eagle carried the canoe.

They saw many deer, and once they saw a bear.

Big Eagle shot a deer with his bow and arrow.

They carried home some fresh venison and a buck skin.

Morning Star and White Cloud were glad to have the venison.

They took the sinews of the deer's legs to string the wampum beads on.

Now Big Eagle has lots of wampum. He will make another belt.

Red Feather gave White Cloud some pretty shells and told her about the swift rapids and the Big Sea Water.

INDIAN GAMES

Red Feather has a long stick in his hand.

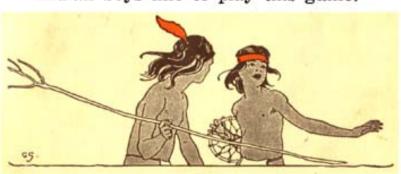
All the other boys have long sticks too. They are going to play a game with them.

One of the boys has a hoop that he is going to roll very fast. All the other boys will try to throw their sticks through the hoop. It is hard to do this when the hoop is rolling fast.

Red Feather wants to be the first to put his stick through the hoop.

Then he will win the game.

Indian boys like to play this game.



Morning Star and White Cloud are in a hurry. They want to finish their work so that they can go to the game.

All the young girls are going to play ball.

The young men and boys do not play this game.

They stand and watch.

Each girl has a club.

They will choose sides, and each side has a goal.

The girls on each side try to knock the ball to the other goal.

Sometimes they kick it instead of knocking it.

Then everybody laughs.

Everybody likes to watch the game.

White Cloud wishes she could play.

White Cloud likes to play house with the other little girls.

They like to play in the brush house under the trees.

They are going to play to-day, but White Cloud does not have her doll with her.

What do you think she has?

She has a puppy tied to her back in a blanket like a papoose. The puppy does not like to be a papoose. He wiggles and tries to get away.

When he wiggles White Cloud pulls the blanket tighter.

She does not want the puppy to run away because she wants to play with him.

They have great fun playing with their dolls and puppies.

White Cloud gathered some rushes from the river.

She wove them into a mat as she had seen her mother do.

She found grasses to weave into little baskets.

She hunted for empty snail shells among the leaves. Her playmates helped her to hunt for snail shells.

Then they sat on the mat and made holes through the snail shells. They strung them on long stems of grass and put them around their necks for beads.

They gathered clam shells at the river for dishes. They made a little oven and played they were baking.

All the afternoon they played with their papoose dolls and papoose puppies.

THE BEAVERS

A family of beavers lived in a stream not far from Big Eagle's wigwam.

Red Feather often went to watch them.

They built a dam in the stream out of sticks because they wanted to make the water deep.

All summer they cut down young poplar trees with their teeth. They dragged them to the bottom of the stream. They wanted the bark to eat in winter. They made a house in the water out of grass and mud. It was shaped like half a pumpkin. The door was at the bottom. The top stuck out of the water.

In the winter the stream was covered with ice, but the beavers had plenty of soft, young bark to eat.

In the top of the house they had a dry, warm place to sleep.

In winter an Indian wigwam is never warm.

The North Wind comes in at all of the cracks, and the Frost comes in right through the birch bark walls.

Red Feather's papoose brother needs a warm bag to sleep in. Morning Star made him one out of beaver skin.



The beaver's fur is thick and soft in winter.

Big Eagle knows how warm the beaver's fur is.

He made a hole in the top of the beavers' house.

When the beavers came back to fix it he caught one of them. Pretty soon he caught another.

Then what do you think Morning Star made?

A warm bag of beaver skin To keep the papoose brother in.

WABEDA

Red Feather has a dog with black curly hair. His name is Wabeda.

Wabeda likes to swim in the river to get sticks that Red Feather throws out for him.

He likes to run with Red Feather through the forest and chase all the chipmunks, squirrels, and rabbits.

He sleeps by the door of the wigwam. Sometimes in winter he gets very cold and hungry.

He jumps about and barks when the men come back from hunting.

He often buries bones that Red Feather gives him.

Sometimes the bears dig them up and carry them away.

Poor Wabeda! He saw something black and white run slowly across the path. It had a bushy tail. He thought he could catch it.

But Bushy Tail was not afraid. He knew just what to do, so he did not try to run away. He squirted something out of a small bag of skin into Wabeda's eyes and nose.

Poor Wabeda!

He could not see, and the smell made him, Oh, so sick! Morning Star drove him away with sticks and with stones.

He had to sleep out in the forest for a long time.

Nobody wanted him near.

Red Feather carried him bones to eat. Wabeda never chased Bushy Tail again.

RED FEATHER'S BIRD FRIENDS

One spring day Red Feather found a bird's nest in the woods. It was almost hidden among the leaves under a low bush.

He counted just as many eggs as he had fingers and toes. The eggs were as big as large hickory nuts.

In a little while Red Feather came to see the nest again. There was nothing in it but empty shells.

Then Red Feather hid under the bush to watch. He lay very still for a long time.

He wanted to see the little ones.

After a while the mother bird came out from behind a log. She wanted to scratch among the leaves for worms. A lot of little birds came with her to scratch for worms too. They were covered with soft down, which was just the color of the leaves on the ground.

Red Feather watched them for a long time. When he moved, the mother bird flew away.

She made a loud whirring noise with her wings. Then Red Feather looked for the little ones. They were too little to fly, but he could not find them. They were so still he could not see them.



Red Feather liked to watch the little birds.

The next day he came to watch again. This time White Cloud came with him. Red Feather told her to be very still. They lay down in the leaves and waited a long time.

In a little while the mother came back with her little ones. She was showing them how to hunt for food.

She stood on one foot and pushed the leaves away with the other. She found plenty of worms and bugs under the leaves.

When the little birds scratched they said, "Peep, peep, peep!"

Red Feather called them the little Wood Peeps. One winter day Red Feather was walking in the forest. A wood peep flew up out of the snow right in front of him. The whirr of its wings made him jump.

He saw a large snowy owl fly by. It was larger than the wood peep, but he could not hear its wings. The snowy owl eats wood peeps. He was out hunting for his dinner.

Red Feather asked his father why snowy owls have such soft, quiet wings.

What do you think Big Eagle said?

There is a marsh near the river.

It is full of marsh peeps and frogs.

The ground is low and covered with shallow water. The grass and reeds grow very tall.

Red Feather often goes down to wade in the marsh. He likes to see the frogs jump into the water and hide. It is fun to watch the little marsh peeps. They wade in the water with their long legs, and pick bugs out of the water with their long bills.

Sometimes a big, brown marsh peep flies up with a "squawk." Sometimes it tries to hide by sticking its bill straight up in the air. It tries to look like a reed.

Red Feather thinks the marsh peeps are very funny.

One night when Morning Star was cooking meat, Red Feather heard a howl away off in the forest. Then he heard another and another.

"Wolves," he cried.

Soon he saw two red spots out in the dark. Then he saw two more, and then there were many.

Some wolves had smelled meat. They came near to look. Red Feather could not see them in the dark. He saw only the fire shining in their eyes.

Wabeda growled and crept closer to the fire. Indians and dogs do not like wolves.

The men chased them away with lighted torches made of hickory bark.

Wolves are afraid of the fire.

THE FIREFLIES

In the summer evenings Indians like to sit outside by a smoky fire. The smoke keeps away the bugs, and in the firelight the Indians can see each other's faces.

Sometimes they sit very still and smoke their pipes. Sometimes they talk in low voices.

Red Feather likes to sit by the fire. He likes to watch the flames and the flying sparks.

Out in the darkness the fireflies flash their little torches. He likes to watch them. He plays they are little wolves. He makes believe they are sleepy wolves winking their eyes.

After a while Red Feather's eyes feel winky too, and he drops fast asleep.



THE WHITE MAN'S VISIT

One day a strange man came into the village. Red Feather had never seen an Indian like him.

Everyone came out to see him.

His face was very pale, not at all like the faces of other men that Red Feather knew.

The Indians called him Pale Face.

He had no tomahawk nor bow and arrow, but he carried a big black stick.

Sometimes this stick made a great noise, and then smoke came out of it. Red Feather didn't know whether to be afraid or not.

With his firestick Pale Face could kill a deer.

His clothes were not at all like Big Eagle's. They were made of a soft kind of skin. Red Feather had never seen anything like this skin before.

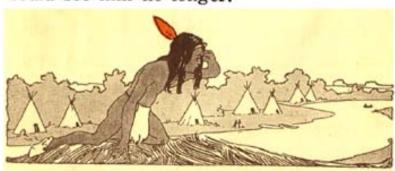
Pale Face had bags full of wonderful beads of many colors. He had knives made out of a hard kind of stone. They were very sharp and would cut a stick right in two.

Pale Face tried to talk, but no one could understand what he said, so he had to talk with his hands. He gave Red Feather something to put in his mouth that would whistle. He gave Morning Star and White Cloud handfuls of beads and some pieces of soft skin like his clothes. He also gave Morning Star a piece of glass in which she could see herself.

He gave Big Eagle a black knife and then he pointed down the river. Big Eagle took him to the Big-Sea-Water in his canoe.

He was very glad to get the knife.

Red Feather watched Pale Face until he could see him no longer.





HIAWATHA

This is little Hiawatha.

Hiawatha lived in a great forest with his grandmother, Nokomis. She was very old.

They lived together in a wigwam. Nokomis took care of little Hiawatha. She sang him to sleep every night, and told him stories about all the birds and animals.

She told him about the rainbow in the sky above him, and about the moon rising out of the water in the evening.

She told him about the wild-flowers of the forest and the lilies of the field.

Hiawatha loved his grandmother, Nokomis.

Hiawatha has a new bow and arrow which his friend Iago made for him.

He made the bow from the ash tree, because ash will bend. He made the arrow from the oak tree because oak is strong and straight.

The arrow has a piece of flint at one end, and some feathers at the other.

It is a very strong bow and arrow. Hiawatha is very proud of it.

HIAWATHA'S HUNTING

Hiawatha is very happy.

Iago said, "Take your bow and arrow and go into the forest. Shoot a red deer for us."

Hiawatha went into the forest alone. He was not afraid, for he had often gone there before.

He knew all of the birds and animals because they had always been his playmates.

To-day he did not see them; he did not hear them either, for he was thinking of the red deer.

He saw tracks leading down towards the river.

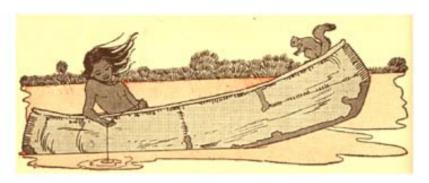
He went quietly, for he did not want the deer to hear him. He hid in the alder bushes. Soon he saw two eyes looking through the bushes. Then he saw two antlers lifted high in the air.

Hiawatha's heart beat fast. He got down on one knee and aimed his arrow. His aim was good for he hit the deer.

Hiawatha carried did n He was very happy. Everybody was gardwor they knew that there would be a great feast.

Nokomis made a cloak for Hiawatha from the hide of the deer.





HIAWATHA'S FISHING

Hiawatha is aid, fg fishing. He has a fish line made of the bark of the cedar.

He is going to the Big-Sea-Water.

He will try to catch the sturgeon, Nahma.

Hiawatha is very proud as he steps into his birchbark canoe.

The water is so clear that he can see the fishes swim far down near the bottom.

He sees Sahwa, the yellow perch, like a sunbeam in the water. He sees Shawgashee, the crawfish, lying on the bottom. Away down on the white sand of the bottom he can see the sturgeon, Mishe-Nahma. Mishe-Nahma is the king of fishes. He is a very large fish.

Hiawatha threw his line and said, "Take my bait, Oh Sturgeon, Nahma!"

But the sturgeon did not take the bait. He sent the sunfish Ugudwash, to break Hiawatha's line.

But Hiawatha sent Ugudwash back again and cried, "Esa! Esa! Shame on you!"

Again he said, "Take my bait, Oh Sturgeon, Nahma."

The sturgeon, Nahma, was very angry. He started upward and leaped into the sunshine. He opened his great mouth and swallowed both Hiawatha and the canoe.

The squirrel, Adjidamo, was with Hiawatha in the canoe.

Hiawatha beat upon the heart of Nahma to kill him. The squirrel, Adjidamo, helped him.

Hiawatha called the squirrel his brave friend.

. By and by Nahma drifted upon the shore. Then Hiawatha knew the great fish was dead.

The sea gulls set Hiawatha free from his prison. He let the sea gulls feed upon the sturgeon until they had all they wanted.

Then he called Nokomis. He told her to being her pots and kettles.

Nokomis made oil from the fat of the sturgeon for winter. It took her three days to make the oil. Hiawatha went into the forest.

He went alone far into the forest to ask the Great Spirit for a gift for his people.

He built a wigwam in the forest, near the shining Big-Sea-Water.

He stayed seven days, and while he was there he did not eat. He fasted seven days.

When the Indians want to ask a gift of the Great Spirit, they fast.

Hiawatha became weak because he had eaten nothing.

One evening he saw a man coming through the woods. He had yellow hair and was dressed in green and yellow. He had green feathers upon his head.

He stood and looked at Hiawatha for a long time.

He told Hiawatha that the Great Spirit had heard his prayers. He told him that he should get what he asked for.

He said "I am your friend, Mondamin. Rise and wrestle with me."

Hiawatha was weak, but he got up to wrestle with Mondamin. As he wrestled he grew stronger.

Each day Mondamin came to wrestle Each day Hiawatha grew stronger.

On the sixth day Mondamin said, "You are brave, Hiawatha. To-morrow you shall throw me, and then you will fast no more.

"Then you must make a bed for me to lie in."

The next day Hiawatha won.

Hiawatha laid Mondamin in the ground and put soft earth over him.



Every day Hiawatha went to see the place where he laid Mondamin.

After a while a small, green leaf came up slowly through the ground, then another and another.

At the end of the summer there stood some corn where Mondamin had lain.

"It is Mondamin! It is Mondamin!" cried Hiawatha. "He has given me a good gift for my people."

And so it was that every year the Indians held the feast of Mondamin.

A LONG TIME AGO

A long time ago the Indians lived where we do now.

They built their wigwams near the water, and they paddled their canoes on the rivers.

They hunted for deer and bear in the forest. They made their camp fires under the trees, and the smoke curled up through the tree tops.

When they were not hunting, they fished in the streams.

Everywhere there were forests and prairies. There were no farms nor cities.

There were no white men's houses.

There were no white men here. They all lived beyond the ocean. All of this

land belonged to the Indians.

ocean. They found the land where the Indians lived.

They found plenty of trees here, and

After a while white men crossed the

They found plenty of trees here, and plenty of fish in the waters.

The summers were warm and bright.

The white men liked the Indians' land so well that more white men came with their wives and children.

They cut down trees with their axes and built log houses for their families. They planted fields of corn, and made gardens and orchards.

They pushed the Indians farther and farther west. Where the Indians had their wigwams, there the white men built their cities. So the Indians' land became the home of the white men.



THE FIRST THANKSGIVING

Some of the white men who came here to live with their families were called Pilgrims.

They came in the good ship Mayflower.

It took them a long time to cross the ocean.

It was winter when they landed, so they had to sleep in the ship until they could build log houses.

They did not have enough food. They were often cold and hungry.

In the spring an Indian came to see them. Then more Indians came with corn and deer meat.

In the spring the Pilgrims learned from the Indians to plant corn and beans and pumpkins.

In the fall they gathered a good harvest. They said, "Let us have a Thanksgiving!"

The Indians brought deer meat and wild turkeys and nuts.

The Pilgrim women made pies of the pumpkins. They roasted the turkeys in stone ovens out of doors.

They set the tables under the trees, and the Pilgrims and the Indians ate together.

This was the first Thanksgiving.

SQUANTO

Squanto was an Indian boy who lived

near the seashore. He had never seen a white man.

One day a large ship came near the shore. Squanto thought it was a big canoe with wings.

to salt and dry them. Squanto watched the white men.

Some white men came ashore with fish

By and by he made friends with them. He went over to England with them in

the ship and stayed there all winter. He saw many strange cities, and learned to speak English.

But Squanto liked his own country best.
In the spring when the fishermen came
again Squanto came with them.

He was glad to see the white men again, so he ran to them and said, "Welcome, Englishmen!" They were the Pilgrims building the village of Plymouth. For a time Squanto lived with the

Pilgrims. He taught them how to plant

He told the Indians many stories of the

One day when Squanto was hunting he

saw another ship. On the shore there were

some houses made of logs, with white men

wonderful things he had seen.

near them.

Indian corn and beans and pumpkins. He learned how to shoot with the Pilgrim musket.

He brought the Pilgrims plenty of venison and wild turkeys to eat. He was a good friend of the Pilgrims.

THE SNAKESKIN OF ARROWS

Once an Indian brought to the Pilgrims a snakeskin filled with arrows.

Some of the Indians were very angry with the white men. They did not want them for neighbors because they cut down the trees and spoiled the hunting.

The white men scared the deer away with their muskets.

So the Indians sent a snakeskin of arrows to scare the Pilgrims away. They threatened to shoot the white men with arrows. They wanted to go to war.

After that the Pilgrims carried their muskets everywhere they went. They carried them to the fields when they went to work. They carried them to the church. They were always watching for Indians.

Miles Standish was a Pilgrim soldier. He was the captain of a band of Pilgrim soldiers.

Captain Standish and his men were very brave. They wanted to protect their wives and children.

So Captain Standish took out the arrows and filled the snakeskin with bullets. Then he sent the snakeskin back.

When the Indians saw the bullets they knew that the white men were not afraid of arrows. They knew that the white men had plenty of bullets.

They knew that the Pilgrims were brave. They knew that the white men would protect their wives and children.

So the Indians did not go to war with the Pilgrims.



POCAHONTAS

Pocahontas was an Indian girl. Her father was a great Indian chief. His name was Powhatan.

Powhatan was angry with the white men and did not want them for neighbors.

John Smith was the white men's captain. He was a very brave man.

John Smith and his people lived in the Southland, where it was warm.

John Smith's people were very hungry and wanted some corn to eat. John Smith said that he would go to Powhatan and ask him for corn.

When John Smith went to visit the Indians, Chief Powhatan wanted to put him to death.

Pocahontas liked the white people. She begged her father not to kill John Smith. So she saved the white men's captain.

After that Pocahontas brought the white people corn when they were hungry. She brought it to them in the night.

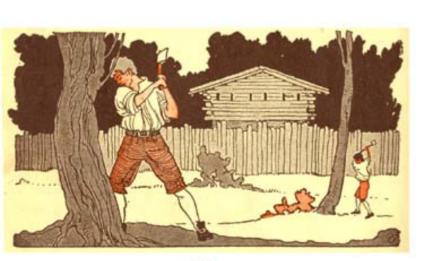
After a while she went to live with the white people. They loved her and called her the princess.

THE WARPATH

Thousands of white people crossed the ocean to live in the land of the Indian.

They cut down the forest with their axes and turned the Indians' land into farms and cities.

The Indians did not like the white men's farms and cities, so they kept moving farther back into the forest.



They became very angry with the white men. They wanted to go on the warpath, so they painted their faces with red clay. They made a great many weapons.

They crept quietly through the forests and set fire to the white men's houses.

They shot the white people from behind trees and bushes.

Then the white men took down their muskets and went to war with the Indians. The white men were very brave soldiers, and they tried to protect their wives and children.

For many months the Indians kept on the warpath. Then they turned and crept far back into the forest.

After that the white men returned to their fields and orchards.



THE JACK-O'-LANTERNS

Once when the Indians were on the warpath, a little boy and girl were alone in their cabin. Their father and mother had gone to the town.

The town was a long way from their cabin. It took them all day to go.

They could not be home until the next night. Just at dark they saw an Indian peeping out of the forest. They were frightened and ran to hide in a hole they had dug back of the house. They took their jack-o'-lanterns with them.

Just as they had crawled into the hole several Indians came around the cabin to look for the children.

Up went the two lighted jack-o'-lanterns from the hole in the ground.

The Indians were frightened and ran away as fast as they could.

They thought the lanterns were fire spirits.

THE IRON KETTLES

Prudence was a big girl. One day she and her two little sisters were alone in a log house on the edge of the forest. Her father and mother had gone to town. They told her to take good care of her sisters.

An Indian peeped in at the window and ran away.

Prudence was afraid. She wanted to hide her sisters, so she took two big iron kettles that stood by the fireplace. She put the little children on the floor and put a kettle over each one to hide her.

Just as she had covered them several Indians burst into the room. They saw the kettles.

One of the Indians shot at them. The arrow made a big noise on the kettle.

The frightened children cried and began to creep across the floor. As they crept they pushed the kettles with them.

The Indians saw the kettles move and thought they were alive. They were scared and ran away.

The Indians were brave fighters, but they were afraid of things they could not understand.



WILLIAM PENN

William Penn was a little white boy who lived across the ocean in England. liked to read stories about Indians. He thought that the Indians' land was a wonderful country. Some day he should like to go there.

When Penn rew up he became a Quaker. He wore frank clothes and a low hat with a wide brim. He thought it was wrong to fight or go to war. He said, "All men are my brothers."

He wanted to cross the ocean and make his home in the land of the Indian.

The king gave him some land in America that was covered with forests.

The king named it Pennsylvania, which means Penn's Woods.

Many Quakers crossed the ocean with Penn to live in Pennsylvania. They landed on the shore of the Delaware River.

Penn was glad to see the Indians and he wanted to be friends with them.

He would not let his people harm the Indians.

He met them under a great tree and bought a large piece of land from them. He paid for it with cloths and beads and knives.

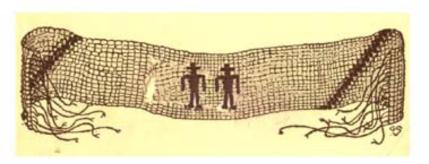
The Indians gave Penn a belt of wampum. On the belt was a picture of Penn and an Indian shaking hands.

The Indians called Penn "Brother Onas." Onas means a feather. Penn used a feather or quill pen to write with.

The Indians liked Penn and said they

would be his friends. They promised never to harm any of Penn's people, and he promised to be kind to them.

Penn and the Indians always kept these promises.



The End.

