

ferent only in degree, of originality. Essentially, Creation is originality, and originality is creation, and both are divine.

Before astronomy was a science, the influences of the stars had already made human faith simpler and human hearts more kind. Thus, of many star myths cherished by our aboriginal predecessors on this continent is one in which a star was said to have loved a beautiful maiden and to have shone awhile each evening where she could gaze upon it ere her eyes closed in joyous and refreshing sleep, for she also loved the star. But one day, in the blinding light, her celestial lover lost all trace of her and could not find her again though he sought for her all round the world every day.

In the final judgment we are all young, and our childlike hearts are led to hope that it became possible for this love-lonely star to assume the heroic guise of some adventurous voyageur, and, in such a capacity, to seek and find the beloved maiden in the form of a fairy princess, the elfin child of some great Algonkian chieftain, to glorious womanhood grown, and that they together explored the vales of the Peace River, the Athabasca, and even the Mackenzie, before Henry or Sir Alexander Mackenzie had opened those territories to our commerce.

The astronomical myths of our own land are not peculiar in the fact that they lend a subtle and poetic fancy to our dreams. Every nomadic race throughout time has had a purer religion and a more perfect poetry because it gazed much upon the heavens, and, with that chief faculty of religion which we call imagination, heard the morning stars chant their orisons to the soul of all who hides within the dawn, and comes forth again in dream when the deep billows of the dark roll up the east, releasing the great white armies of the sky.

We cite only one foreign example. Every one knows how a star is believed to have led three sages from far eastern deserts to the city of peace wherein the glorious Prince of Peace was to be born.

If the pre-scientific contemplation of the stars had an effect so salutary upon those who made them their friends, how much