

(2) *Wiske'djak Kills the Bear and Gets his Head Fastened in the Skull.*

Wiske'djak was always in trouble. One time he was going along the shore of a big lake carrying a big pail. He felt very hungry and was looking for something to eat. Pretty soon he saw a lot of clumps of high-bush cranberries and commenced to eat from one little clump to another. Then he remembered his pail. Said he, "If I could pick my pail full, I would have a good supply to last me a long while." So he began filling his pail, and as he went on he got into some big clumps. Suddenly he saw a big Bear sitting down among some bushes, every little while rubbing his eyes and picking out his paws as though something was hurting his eyes. Wiske'djak watched him a while and thought how nice it would be to kill him. What a big supply of food he would have then to fill his pail with! So he went up to the bear and said, "Hello, Bear! What's the matter with you?" The Bear answered, "Oh! my eyes are so sore, and I can't see where to go. I just wish somebody would help me." "Well, come along with me. I will help you. I know where to get some fine medicine that will fix you up all right." "Very well," said the bear.

Wiske'djak led him off to a big bunch of cranberries. There he gathered a lot of berries and crushed them in his hands. Then he told the Bear to open his eyes so that he could put the medicine on. "It may hurt you when I put this medicine in, but it will cure you, so don't mind it." Then Wiske'djak began to rub the cranberry juice into the Bear's eyes. The Bear began to roar and tear around with the pain, making a great time. "But never mind," said Wiske'djak. "It may hurt, but it will cure you." In the meantime he hunted around and got two big stones, and while the Bear was blinded with the pain, began pounding him on the head with the stones. He had a hard fight all over the berry-patch, but finally succeeded and killed the Bear. Then Wiske'djak went back to where he had left his pail and got his knife. He skinned the bear and cut him up. He put some of the pieces into his pail to make a bouillon. Then he got sticks and made a fire for the cooking. Next he got some birch bark peeled off and cleaned a big space