

Note by G. E. L.—Jonas George got mixed and forgetful at this part of the story, he forgot the young partridges and their questioning by Nanabush, also their answers, and how Nanabush changed their colour by defecating upon them. Partridges were formerly white. This missing portion prevails in other tales of Nanabush in other Algonquin bands in Ontario.

No. 35.

BELIEF IN WITCHES.

R. J. Markle.

The Ojibwa Indians on Parry Island Reserve believe in witchcraft. The most intelligent of them stick to this belief. For instance, they believe a witch who is never known to the rest of the people can turn into a cat or dog, etc., and has the power, if angered, to inflict the most terrible punishment on its victim, in the disease, such as tubercular trouble, bone decay, etc.

No. 36.

OJIBWA AND MOHAWK—THE WILD INDIANS. (No. 6.)

Told by John Wesley, Ojibwa, Rama Reserve, who has two Indian names, Py-ash-ē-gōb and Mūk-kō-got.

One Ojibwa man and his son were out hunting down the Severn River some time ago. They went away for a little time, then they came back, when they got out on the lake, which is called Sparrow Lake, the old man said to his son: "You see those pine trees across the lake." The son said, "Yes." "There are about twenty wild Indians (Mohawks) right under those trees, and they already see us," the old man said. This man and his son have got to go very near where these wild Indians were hiding, which was about where the Severn River goes into Sparrow Lake. "Well, I guess we will have to face them," the old man said and so they went on. It was about sundown when the man said to his son, "They are watching us very close, when we go in the River they will follow us and you have to paddle all you are worth. We will try and get up the river as far as we can, there is a little creek about two miles above." The boy got ready and just as they went in the old man said to his son, "Now they get in their canoes to get us," so they paddled hard till they got to this little creek and paddled their canoe up to the bank which was pretty high. He told his son, "If they know that we are here as soon as they face their canoes right where we are you shoot both barrels and run away all you can go, straight south all the time till you come to our Lake" (that is Lake Couchiching). They watched the wild Indians. The old man said, "Here they come: I am going to fight all I can and will try and kill them all before they get to the shore. They are coming pretty fast." The wild Indians went by. "They never saw us," said the old man, "and I guess we are all right." The place was wild and nobody near by till they got to Washago where the first house was to be seen. They staid there all night till next morning. This man said, "We will see those men before we get to our Lake, and I guess they will watch for us at the portage." This portage was about two miles long which they had to make to get home. They went up the river anyway, they got to this portage and on to Lake Couchiching. When they got out of the river the old man said, "We are safe now, but those men are there just across the bay, we will go hy close, we will see if they