

THE INDIAN MYTHOLOGY.

In the beginning there was nothing but sky and water. In the sky a moon. A bird came out of the moon with a small ring or moon in its mouth. On coming to the water it got on the back of a large fish. There was no earth. The fish got into shallow water with the bird. The bird dropped the ring from its bill, when a large toad came and swallowed the ring. The toad soon became impregnated, then a child was born from the toad. It was a girl. The bird took it to feed it, and by the time it came to maturity, there sprung up out of the waters a beach with thick woods. The bird left the girl on the beach and went off into the woods to seek food for it. Then a bear came out of the woods and went to the girl and hugged her, and from her the first man was born. This is the ancient account or legend of the creation by the Indians. Consequently they consider themselves descended from the bird, fish, toad and bear. So each family takes one of these as their crest.