

## PREFACE

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The following myths were collected on five trips among the Malecites, who live chiefly in New Brunswick. The first of these trips was to Oldtown, Maine, in April, 1910, when I collected three tales from a Malecite, who was then living on the Penobscot Reservation. My next trip, in July and August of the same year, was to four St. John River reserves—St. Mary, French Village, Tobique Point, and Edmundston. I succeeded in getting tales from all but the last place. In the summer of 1911 I again visited the Malecites, this time their village on the St. Lawrence—Cacouna, Quebec—and St. Mary and Oromocto on the St. John. In August, 1912, I collected the bulk of this material at St. Mary. My last trip was in December, 1912, when I again returned to St. Mary. The last three trips were taken under the auspices of the Geological Survey of Canada.

I shall not enumerate here all the informants from whom these tales were collected, for the name of each informant as well as the date and name of the place where recorded are given with each myth. However, I shall here mention my chief informant, James Paul, from whom I got the bulk of the material, notably the long myth of the culture hero Gluskap. To him also I am indebted for some European tales current among the Malecites, which have already been published in the "Journal of American Folk Lore," xxvi, 1913, pp. 219-258. Though James Paul has a prodigious memory, I can not claim for him the knowledge of all the material here presented under his name, for he made use of various other Malecites in refreshing his memory concerning the old tales or in filling in gaps of a story, which he had forgotten. I have tried to give in every case the name of the person from whom he obtained his material. It would seem that the greater part of his knowledge was derived from his father and his father-in-law.

Since researches are going on quite rapidly among the neighbouring tribes, the Penobscots, Micmacs, and Montagnais, it would