

hind legs of the Kangaroo, so much like his own, so long and so strong, used in crawling along like a miserable Opossum or Bandicoot, and he thought the Kangaroos very lazy and very foolish, and so he commenced to talk with them, and demanded why they did not jump with their long legs as he did. The Kangaroos replied that they knew but of one way of using their legs, and that way was as he then saw them doing. The Frog said: No, long legs are made for jumping, try and do as I do; and off he started jump, jump, jump, and jump also went the Kangaroos, then jump, jump, jump, the first jump awkward, but improving as they leapt, until at last away they bounded altogether, Frog and Kangaroos, and the Kangaroo was glad when he jumped away from the Black man; but the Black man said it was no good, and he was sulky with the Frog."

It is the Frog accordingly that the Kangaroo has to thank for the first idea of that system of locomotion which he now employs, and it is the Frog too, according to the same native belief, that the Australian has to blame for having to exert those same powers in order to supply himself with food.

The following was the purport of the native youth's account of the manner in which fire was diffused over the land, although the language may differ somewhat from his narrative.

A long long time ago, a little Bandicoot, (a small and sharp nosed animal, not unlike our Guinea Pig,) was the sole owner of a fire-brand, which he cherished with the greatest jealousy, carrying it about with him wherever he went, and never once laying it aside or allowing it out of his own special care; so selfish was he in the use of his prize, that he obstinately refused to share it with the other animals, his neighbors; and so they held a general council, where it was decided that the fire must be obtained from the Bandicoot either by force or strategy. A Hawk and a Pigeon were deputed to carry out this resolution, who, having formed their plan, awaited their opportunity to accomplish it.

This Bandicoot lived on the banks of a small stream where he amused himself during the sunny hours of the day in walking and frisking about. It was on one of these occasions that the Hawk and Pigeon ventured to try their chance, and thus went about their work. The Pigeon strolled down the bank of the river where the Bandicoot was walking; the Hawk, at the same time, kept flying about in their vicinity. Coming up with the Bandicoot, the Pigeon entered into conversation with him, and asked him for a portion of the fire he carried with him. The Bandicoot as usual refused his request. The Pigeon then asked him why he continued so selfish as not to divide