

THE GREAT MAN AT THREE RIVERS (PROV. OF QUEBEC).

Told by Jonas George.

One time, over three hundred years ago, there were about 180 Indians living at the Lake of Two Mountains, near the St. Lawrence River. These were good Indians, but there was no preaching at that time, but this great nation know most anything just like a good reader. Those people know someone above. They believe and fear that someone is looking down on earth from above. One young man—and no others—one morning went down to the river to see the water, how fast it went down. He lay on the grass to take a rest. He heard some singer just on the tree, nice song. He sees a little bird sitting on the limb and singing and it sounds good. This man knows that hymn, and that the little bird is praising God. In a moment he began to hear different birds singing all over the place, and all kinds of birds were singing the same hymn.

This young man knows all kind of language on earth, knows everything. He can talk with deer and can speak to (with) any kind of beast or bird. Some birds are bad, just like persons, and use bad language and bad talk against God. Man is just the same. This man knows the weather and coming thunderstorms and all kinds of things on the earth. He gets what he wants on dry land or in the lake, gets fish any time because he believes all things from God. He lives well for a long time at that place on the St. Lawrence River, or Three Rivers. He was happy. This man then was a preacher for better living in this world. He never heard the gospel.

All his time he knows all, and sings. Sometimes people heard and were feared (afraid) and looked above at last.

Someone looked away east a great number of miles (1,000) across the sea, saying "Are you people white men, or we might say England." This man could see from here to England. Is the greatest man ever known.

Note by G. E. L.—Wah-sa-ghe-zik says this story is over 300 years old. That he knows some of it, but it is too long for him to remember it as he heard it. It probably refers to some person or teacher at the time of the early French period in Canada, but has some traces of Nanabush in it.

THE SICK INDIAN.

Told by Mrs. Lottie Marsden, Rama Reserve (Ojibwa).

One time there was a settlement of Indians camping by the lake shore. One of them took sick, and he wanted some one to pray for him, so all the rest of the "landing" of Indians went to have a prayer meeting. One of the best Christians got up and led them in prayer. They all thought he was a very good preacher. There was an old Indian woman sitting in bed, she got up and said to the rest, "I wouldn't listen to that man, he is nothing but a rogue and a drunkard." So he didn't speak another word. He just went out and said "Good-bye, I am going to the hotel to get a glass of rum."

s.
n
he
at
a
tr
we
hi
aw
lef
wa

had
when
show
so, t
time

I
and h
that h
N
is abou

Ab
people.