



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

MS 1722 Miscellaneous legends

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	MS 1722 Miscellaneous legends
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Administrative Information

Processing Information

The description of this manuscript was updated in 2024 based on information provided by Dr. Patricia Afafe, Research Assistant to the Linguistic Editor of the *Handbook of North American Indians*, and Dr. Lucy Thomason, National Museum of Natural History Museum Technician (linguistics).

Citation

Manuscript 1722, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Scope and Contents

This collection contains three tales by Jim Peters in Meskwaki syllabary with English translations by Horace Poweshiek. The first is a story about a hunter's mishaps with uncooperative game animals in winter when the people are hungry. The second is a story about a married couple on a hunting trip who, when spied on by Sioux enemies, escape by canoe through the virtue of the wife's childhood fasting visions; the husband tries to get his wife to take the war honors for an enemy they kill en route, but she gives them to her brother in her place; later, during a truce with the Sioux, the husband meets and swaps stories with the men he evaded. The third is a story about a young man who has some adventures with strangers whose language he does not speak; en route home, he and his fellow Meskwakis who came to retrieve him kill two enemies by virtue of their leader's childhood fasting visions, claiming war honors when they reach their camp.

Local Numbers

NAA MS 1722

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Folklore -- Fox
- Fox
- Indians of North America -- Northeast
- Language and languages -- Documentation
- Meskwaki; Sauk & Fox

Cultures:

- Fox