



# Smithsonian

*National Museum of Natural History*

## MS 1859 Two Fox legends and linguistic notes collected by Truman Michelson

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## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	
Administrative Information .....	1
Scope and Contents .....	2
Names and Subjects .....	
Bibliography .....	2

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Anthropological Archives
<b>Title:</b>	MS 1859 Two Fox legends and linguistic notes collected by Truman Michelson
<b>Date:</b>	1924
<b>Identifier:</b>	NAA.MS1859
<b>Creator:</b>	Michelson, Truman, 1879-1938 (Collector) Poweshiek, Horace (Translator) Kiyana, Alfred, 1877-1918 (Informant)
<b>Extent:</b>	21 Items (0.21 linear feet (1 box))
<b>Language:</b>	In English and Meskwaki (Fox).
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Two Fox legends and linguistic notes collected by Truman Michelson</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Two Fox legends and linguistic notes collected by Truman Michelson</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Two Fox legends and linguistic notes collected by Truman Michelson</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Two Fox legends and linguistic notes collected by Truman Michelson</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Two Fox legends and linguistic notes collected by Truman Michelson</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Two Fox legends and linguistic notes collected by Truman Michelson</a> <a href="#">Image(s): MS 1859 Two Fox legends and linguistic notes collected by Truman Michelson</a>

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## Administrative Information

### Available Formats

Digital surrogates are available online.

### Processing Information

The description of this manuscript was updated in 2024 based on information provided by Dr. Patricia Afable, 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 1859, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

## Scope and Contents

This collection contains two texts by Alfred Kiyana, handwritten in Meskwaki syllabary, with English translations by Horace Poweshiek; a phonetic text on the first story by Truman Michelson; and linguistic notes by Michelson. The texts are titled "The one the months blessed" and "The one who knew how to use things—stone axes and all sorts of things" (a story about the invention of culture). Michelson's phonetic text is of the first story, which he labeled "Months." Michelson's linguistic notes include vocabulary and notes on months and calendrical information from William Jones and Thomas Forsyth.

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## Bibliography

An English paraphrase of "The person who the suns blessed" was published in Truman Michelson's Fox Miscellany (Bureau of American Ethnology, Bulletin 114) as "The one whom the moons blessed." His linguistic notes were also incorporated into the publication.

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## Local Numbers

NAA MS 1859

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## Local Note

Title changed from "Legends 1924" 3/18/2014.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Subjects:

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

### Cultures:

- Fox

### Types of Materials:

- Folklore
- Narratives
- Vocabulary