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National Museum of Natural History

MS 3189 Kickapoo stories by Joseph Murdock

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	MS 3189 Kickapoo stories by Joseph Murdock
Date:	1930
Identifier:	NAA.MS3189
Creator:	Michelson, Truman, 1879-1938 (Collector) Murdock, Joseph
Extent:	213 Pages
Language:	Primarily in Kickapoo with some English.
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Kickapoo stories by Joseph Murdock Digital Content: Kickapoo stories by Joseph Murdock Digital Content: Kickapoo stories by Joseph Murdock

Administrative Information

Available Formats

Microfilm- University of Michigan, Anthropology Department 10/52.

Citation

Manuscript 3189, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Scope and Contents

Three notebooks containing stories handwritten in Kickapoo by Joseph Murdock, a Mexican Kickapoo residing in Oklahoma. There are a few titles and notes written in English. The following is a list of the titles, translated into English. The list may not reflect the physical arrangement of the stories.

Scope and Contents

Contents: Where the people had a town and the chief had a son; Apparently something on Mide and Wabano; A story of where the people had a town and the man moved; A witch causes death; Hog (the end is very much like the last story in Jones' Kickapoo text and the so-called Meskwaki "Tiger" story from Jack Bullard); An old woman kills her daughter-in-law as she fell in love with her son-in-law (very much like Jones' Fox story. The ending is slightly different); What happened to a woman who hated her son-in-law (much the same as Jones' Fox story "How a girl hated the man who stayed with her parents; the bull frog episode appears in both); Skunk and opossum (almost exactly the same as Jones' Kickapoo story; ending is different); Raccoon tries to steal chickens and is caught by a Frenchman; story something like Wissler's "Split Feather" (the end is like one of Jones' Fox stories); V-dentata; a story almost like Jones' story of the man who married many women (the louse episode occurred in both); Wisake

and the "Flag"; story that begins like the bear lover, goes on almost like Jones' Kickapoo story (it is closer to the Apaiyashihagi story); The determination of paternity by passing ? the baby; Potiphar's wife (ending different from Jones' Kickapoo); a variant of Jones' Boy and the giant (the mayor's daughter episode is lacking and the ending is different); Snapping turtle on the war path; Snapping turtle runs a race with Black Hawk; White Blooms (a new story); Why Kickapoos did not eat Blackhawk, and the youth who fasted all month; (names of some Kickapoo months; A man lives with his son-in-law; An old man wishes his daughter to marry ("control of goods" under the "control of game"; some European elements); Story of Tootca (= grub worm) Lesbian; Ten men who were brothers together; (on last page apparently a summary of titles of stories running backward one page).

Local Numbers

NAA MS 3189

Local Note

Title changed from "Legends summer, 1930" 5/22/2014.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Indians of North America -- Northeast
- Indians of North America -- Southwest, New
- Kickapoo
- Kickapoo language
- Language and languages -- Documentation

Cultures:

- Indians of North America -- Southwest, New
- Kickapoo

Types of Materials:

- Folklore
- Manuscripts
- Narratives