# OSAGE TRADITIONS. 

BY

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## CONTENTS.

Page.Introduction ..... 374
Traditions of the elders ..... 381
Unŭ ${ }^{n}$ uфáye. Tsisu wactáye itáde (Tradition of the Tsiou wactáye gens) ..... 381
Translation ..... 388
Unŭ ${ }^{n}$ ựáye. Qự̛̣asasan itade (Tradition of the Bald Eagle subgens) ..... 390
Translation ..... 394
Concluding remarks ..... 396
ILLUSTRATION.
Fig. 389. Symbolic chart of the Osage ..... 378

# OSAGE TRADITIONS. 

By Rev. J. Owen Dorsey.

## INTRODUCTION.

When the author visited the Osage, in the Indian Territory, in January, 1883, he learned of the existence of a secret society of seven degrees, in which, it was alleged, the traditions of the people have been preserved to the present time. Owing to the shortness of his visit, one month and eleven days, he was unable to gain more than fragmentary accounts of the society, including parts of two traditions. from several Osage who had been initiated.

The version of the first tranlition was dictated to the author by Hada-3ïqse (Red Corn), a halfbreed ()sage of the Tsípu wactáye gens. He obtained it from Sadekiфe. Hada-oüzse was adopted in childhood by a white man named Matthews, who sent him to a Jesuit college in Missouri(?) to be educated for the priesthood. But the boy left the institution after he had been taught to read and write, as he did not wish to become a priest. He took the name of William P. Matthews, but among his white associates he is known as Bill Nix. He has tried several occupations and is now an Indian doctor. The anthor was inclined at first to underrate Mr. Matthews's accomplishments and stock of information, but subsequently changed his opinion of him, as he obtained much that agreed with what had been furnished by members of other tribes in former years. Besides, the author obtained partial accounts of similar traditions from other Osage, who used the same chant which Hada-oüzse had sung. None of the younger Osage men knew about these matters and the author was urged not to speak to them on this subject. He observed that several of the elder men, members of the secret order in which these traditions are preserved, had parts of the accompanying symbolic chart (Fig. 389) tattooed on their throats and chests. This chart is a fac simile of one that was drawu for the author by Hada-oüqse. At the top we see a tree near a river. The tree is a cedar, called the tree of life. It has six roots, three on each side. Nothing is said ahout this tree till the speaker nearly reaches the end of the tradition. Then
follows the "ceremony of the cedar." The tree is described very minutely. Then follows a similar account of the river and its branches.


Fig. 389. Symbolic chart of the Osage.
Just under the river, at the left, we see a large star, the Red or Morning Star. Next are six stars, Taфdad $i^{\mathrm{n}}$. The Omaha know a similar group, which they call "Miña si łañga," or "Large foot of a goose." Next is the Evening Star; and last comes the small star, "Mikak'ě-aiňya." Beneath these four we see the seven stars, or Pleiades (Mikak"ĕ udítse péqŭ ña, the Seven Gentes of Stars), between the Moon (on the left) and the Sun (on the right). Beneath these are the peace pipe (on the left) and the hatchet (on the right). A hird is seen hovering over the four upper worlds. These worlds are represented by four parallel horizontal lines, each of which, except the lowest one. is supported by two pillars. The lowest world rests on a red oak tree.
The joumey of the people began at a point below the lowest upper world, on the left side of the chart. Then the people had neither human bodies nor souls, though they existed in some unknown manner.

They ascended from the lowest upper world, on the left, to the highest. There they obtained human souls in the bodies of birds, according to Sadeki申e. Yahiłe-wałayiñya said that there they met a male red bird, to whom they appealed for aid. (See p. 383, line 18.) This was distinct from the female Red Bird, who gave them human bodies. They descended to the first world, and from that they traveled until they alighted on the red oak tree. (See p. 383, line 30.) The ground was covered with grass and other kinds of vegetation. Then the paths of the people separated: some marched on the left, being the peace gentes that could not take life; they subsisted on roots \&c.; while those on the right killed animals. By and by the gentes exchanged commodities.

The small figures on the left, in going from the tree (on the right when facing the tree), show the heavenly bodies or beings to whom the Black Bear went for help, and those on the right, in going from the tree (on the left when facing the top of the chart), show similar bodies or beings to whom the Wavaje or war gentes applied for assistance. These are unknown to the members of the Tsíou gentes. After the female red bird gave bodies to the Tsívu people, the Black Bear found seven skins, which were used for tents. Subsequently the people discovered four kinds of rocks, which were the $I^{\prime \prime} q$ q sáde,
 rock; and $\mathrm{I}^{\prime \prime}$ qĕ skă, or white rock. Therefore, when a child is named, four stones are heated for the sweat bath. After finding the rocks, according to yahiye-wałayiñya, four buffalo bulls approached the people, as one of the men was returning to the company. When the first bull arose after rolling on the ground, an ear of red corn and a red pumpkin fell from his left hind leg. The leader of the Tsíou wactáze noticed them, and asked his younger brother to pick them up and taste them. The leader of the Bald Eagle subgens did so. Then the elder brother said: "These will be good for the chilkren to eat. Their limbs will stretch and increase in strength." When the second bull arose after rolling, an ear of spotted corn and a spotted pumpkin dropped from his left hind leg. These, too, were tasted and declared good for the children. When the third bull arose after rolling, an ear of dark corn and a dark (black?) pumpkin dropped from his left hind leg. From the left hind leg of the fourth buffalo dropped an ear of white corn and a white pumpkin. Therefore, when a child is named in the Tsíon gens (alone?) the head man of that gens (yahiyewałayiñya himself, according to his statement) takes a grain of each kind of corn and a slice of each variety of pumpkin, which he puts into the month of the infant. Hada-oüqse knew that the four kinds of

[^0]rocks were found, but he could not say in what part of the tradition the account belonged. He said that subsequently the Waaaoe and Tsípu gentes came to the village of the Hañ'ya-utạ́anłse, a very warlike people, who then inhabited earth lodges. They subsisted on animals, and bodies of all kinds lay around their village, making the air very offensive. The Tsiou succeeded at last in making peace with the Hañ'ya-utáqanłse. After this followed the part of the account given to the author by yahiye-wazayiñya:
"After the council between the Tsíou, Waoaje, and Hañ'ya-utáфanłse, two old men were sent off to seek a country in which all might dwell. One of these was a Tsípu wactáye and the other a $\mathrm{Pa}^{\mathrm{n}}$ ykawactáte. Each man received a pipe from the council and was told to go for seven days without food or drink. He carried a staff to aid him in walking. Three times a day he wept, in the morning, at noon, and near sunset. They returned to the people at the end of the seven days, being very thin. The report of the Tsívu man was accepted, so the Tsíou gens is superior to the $\mathrm{Pa}^{"}$ yka-wactáye or Watsetsi. A Waoase man acted as crier and told all ahout the new home of the nation. All the old men decorated their faces with clay. The next morning the two old men who had gone in search of the new home led their respective sides of the nation, who marched in parallel roads. When they reached the land the policemen ran around in a circle, just as they do previous to starting to war. The Waoaje man ran around from right to left and the \$'uqe man from left to right. At different stations the two old leaders addressed the people. Finally the men took sharp pointed sticks, which they stuck into the ground, each one saying 'I wish my lodge to be here.' The next day the Cuka or messenger of the Tsín old man went to summon the Elk crier. The latter was ordered to make a proclamation to all the people, as follows: "They say that you must remove to-day! Wakanła has made good weather! They say that you must remove tuday to a good land!' In those days the Osage used dogs instead of horses. When the old Tsíon man made his speech, he went into details about every part of a lodge, the fireplace, building materials, implements, \&c. Four sticks were placed in the fireplace, the first pointing to the west. When this was laid down, the Tsípu leader spoke about the West Wind, and also about a young buffalo bull (Tsefu'-oiñya), repeating the name Wani'e-skă. When the stick at the north was laid down, he spoke of Tsehe quise (gray buffalo horns) or a buffalo bull. When the stick at the east was laid down he spoke of Tsełuझุa taũya (a large buffalo bull). On laying down the fourth stick at the south, he spoke of Tse min ${ }^{n}$ y (a buffalo cow). At the same time a similar ceremony was performed by the aged $\mathrm{Pa}^{\mathrm{n}}$ पka man on the right sile of the tribe. ${ }^{1}$

[^1]"In placing the stick to the east, Tąse yaqpa tsě. The East Wind, and Tahe cade, Dark-Horned Deer, were mentioned; to the north, Tarse dasan tse, The North Wind, and The Deer with gray horns were mentioned: to the west, Tazse Man'ha tsé, The West Wind, and an animal which makes a lodge and is with the Tahe pasiye were mentioned; tothe south, Tąse Ak’a tsě, The Sonth Wind, and Ta wañka he ачфаю̆ skutañya were mentioned." ${ }^{\text {' }}$

Yahiye-wałayiũya gave no further information, as a reported case of smallpox near the agency led the author to start for the East Fel)ruary 21,1883 . Since then he has learned of the existence of similar societies among the Kansa and the Ponka, and he suspects that there were formerly such societies among the Omaha. ${ }^{2}$

## TRADITIONS OF THE ELDERS.

In presenting the accompanying traditions. the following ablreviations are used in the interlinear translations:

| an., animate. | in., inanimate. | pl., plural. | st., sitting. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| cv., curvilinear. | mv., moving. | recl., reclining. | std., standing. |
| du., dual. | ob., object. | sing., singular. | sub., subject. |


(Tradition of the Tsfou wactaye gens.)



Ho younger child body they have he was ary- he really | brother grand- |
| :---: |
| ing that father |
| baid |

[^2]

Ho younger youslall attend to it he really O grand-
Miixe úsakída' wi"'qtsi éqsi hi' naji"': ddítau, Tsiká?
Parallel upper onts * to it came and hereally orraud-

 $\begin{array}{cccc}\text { Just there they were not he really O grand- } \\ \text { human heings } & \text { said }\end{array}$

Ho youmger child body they have he was say lie really uspand-
 said father!

 | Parallel upper two to it came and he really $\begin{array}{c}\text { worlds grand } \\ \text { woid father! }\end{array}$ |
| :---: |
| stood |

Ëqsíutsi níkaciya-cíor: d́ditati, Tsiká!
Just there they were not human be really O grand-
beings
said

Ho younger bhild body they have be was saying he really ogrand-

Child hody we shall seek ours be really O grand-


Just there they were not human he really Ogrand-
 Ho younger child hody they bave hewassaying he really O grand- $\begin{aligned} & \text { brother ane faid father! }\end{aligned}$

 Parallelupper four there came and bereally Ogrand

See the lowest horizontal line on the left side of the chart.
Nikaciya-dion. Another reading is nikacipaqtsi-dăi: they were not complete Aluman beings.

A different reading of lines 17 to 25 is as follows:
Mixe úsakida qúđ̛a níkaciभaçáde: ádintań, Tsiká!
Parallel upper four they were made he really 0 grandworlds human beings said father!
Cū" in ${ }^{\text {rekita }}$ é efodidintaủ, Tsiká! Awhile he indeed, he O grand-
Diñ ya ouilya wacini yade. é añka: ádintaú, Tsika!
cliild body
they have
he was be really
Clind body they have he was be really o grand-
none
father:
saying
Há, wisŭñ̄a! é edódintaí, Tsika!
Ho younger he indeed, he Ogrand-
Ú fa"de añyáxe tatsé: àdintaú, Tsiká!
Attention we sball make he really $O$ grand
said father!

Parallel upper three there they (o) came he really O grand worlds and stood said father!

```
1s Ě Esíqtsi níkacíya \(\mathrm{e}^{-1}\) : adítaú, Tsikát
    Just there they were lmman be really ogrand
```



```
        Awhile longer child body they were without he really ogrand
```



```
                                    said father.
21 Máxe lisakida fádé"i éqsi tsi' na, in': ádintaú, Tsiká :
    Parallel upper worlds three there came this way be really ofrand
    गiñ'มa oúy[a-dáol̆ é eqádintaú, Tsiká!
        Child had no bodies that indeed, he O grand.
```




```
                                    he really ogrand
said father
```



```
    Parallel upper worlds two there came this way he really organd-
and stood father!
    )ińya ouíya kii申a-cáol: ídi"taí, Tsiká!
Child body they did not he really ogrand
                find for said father!
2\% Há, wistun'ya! oiñ'ya ouíya wađiñ'ye, éyi añkái ádi"taí, Tsiká !
\begin{tabular}{ll} 
Ho younger bother body they have he was saying he really ogrand- \\
brothe & nond \\
that & said
\end{tabular}
```



```
        Awhile longer examina- we shall make be really ogrand-
tion said father !
    Máxe usakída wi"'qutsi è'łsi tsi' naวi"': zúdi"taú, Tsiká!
    Parallel upper worlds one there came this way he really Ugrand-
30 Pü'sühü win átsi ánaəin añká: cíci"tań, Tsiká!
Red oak one they came to and stood on be really ogrand-
                                    said father:
```



Translation.
At the fourth upper world they were made human heings.
"Still," said he (the elder brother?), indeed he really said,
-. The children have no bodies.
" Ho, younger brother!
"We must give this matter our attention."
They came to the third upper world.
"The children have no burdies."
"Still must we give this our attention," said one.
They came to the second upper world. (From this line on there is no variation from what has been given above.)
${ }^{1}$ Here they obtained human souls, though they were in the bodies of birds. See the hird hovering above the four upper worlds in the clart. Then began the descent to this earth.
 Day very good there came and he really ogrand-

3.3 (ítsi naoin' e equidiutau, Tsilí!

Came directly to he indwed, he O grand-
him and stood said really said father!
him and stood said really said father
Hid, wlo1 ¢e: aditau, csika!
Ho elder

Paws you hurn them for me you shall walk he really o prand-
said father!
3; Há, Kiixe-wéhiī-san! (ยyi añkét: ddintaú, Tsiká!
Ho crow bone white: be was saying he really ogrand-
that said father!
 Male auimal who touched there he arrived and was he really O grand-
a foe in the past
standing a fue in the past standing sad father
Fa, witsiqué! évi añké: ddítaí, Tsikít!
Ho grandfather! he was saying he really Ogrand-
39 Din'ya गuíya wa申in'ye ajlká: adintaú, Tsiká!
Child budy
he really

Child holy I whosit(\%) apt hereally O grand-

 Awhile longer you shall attend to it he really Ogrand-

Female animal who had there he arrived and he really ograndtouched a foe in the was std. said father past

Ho grand- he wassaying he really O grand-
mother! that
said
father!

said father!
Din’ya oníya miñkcé qan'tse: ádintail, Tsikáa!
said father
${ }^{1}$ Why the Black Bear was called Káxe-wáhư-sa ${ }^{\text {D }}$ was not explained to the author-
${ }^{2}$ Cáye 7 süqsean' фakcị́é \&c. You shall take me for your servant; literally, Jou sluall walk, cuusing me to burn my feet; that is, You shall make me go through fire and water for you.
${ }^{3}$ Watse-fúya-na. цuya shows that the star was regarded as a male animal, just as $\mathrm{min}^{\mathrm{n}} \mathrm{ya}$, in line 43, denotes that the next star was a female animal. not a female of the human race. As they were called "grandfather" and "grandmother," they were looked upon as supernatural beings or gods. So were all of the heavenly bodies to whom the Black Bear applied.
${ }^{4}$ 〇iüมุa ouí̧a miñkce tan'tse, a phrase that puzzles the writer, who suspects that an auxiliary verb has been omitted and that the whole should read; "piña suiңa-wikciфe miñkce dan'tse? (Can I give you bodiesfor the children?) No! You most still make attempts to obtain them elsewhere."
${ }^{5}$ Wákamá yaina d¢̣in-1nd.oj, I ctm not the only mysterious one (apply to some one of the rest).


```
Mysterious that lam l-not she was say he really ogrand-
one
only
```



```
Awhile longer you shall attend to it he really organd-
```



```
During the day mysterious to the ob. hearrived and he really ogrand
one stond father!
Hít, Wítsiqute! évi añkít: idj"tití, Tsikd́!
Ho grandfatizer: he was say- let really Oprand-
```



``` Child buty they have none grandfather: le was say he really ogrand-
ing that
Din'ka ouíya minkcé dinn'tse: iddintali, Tsikí:
Chik! body I who sit apt
```




``` Awhile you shall artend to it lee really \(O\) grand-
```



```
Mysterious night the st, theme lewarriver hereally ogrand-
one
Lí. Witsiv[ué, idi"tiul. Tsikít:
Ho grandfather: he really ") grand
```



``` ('hild body they havenone grandfather! hewassay- be really pranding that said father:
```





``` Awhile longer you shall attend be really orrand-
```



``` Star seven the ev. to it he came and be really 0 grand ob. stond said father'
Há, wítsiyue! ádi"tan, Tsikí! Ho grandfathers: he really orgrand
said
father!
```



```
Diñ' Child body I whosit apt he really Ogrand
Wakanłá yána dẹi"-máoĭ, éyi ankí: ádi"tań, Tsiká! Mysterious that 1 am l-not he was way he really ogrand-
```



``` Awhile longer yon shall attend he really oprand
```

 of Stars. Could this have any connection with the use of the number $t$ as the number of the Tsim. Wavare, and Hanya gentes?
(f) ETH- 25

Deer three to the st．be came and hereally Ogrand
Há，wítsiyué！ádi＂tań，Tsiká！
Ho grandfather！he really Ogrand－
 Child body they have grandfather he was saying he realiy of grand－

 Mysterions that I an I－not hewas say be really ong orand－
one
ing that

Awhite longer you shall attend to it be really $O$ grand－ said father！
 Star large during the the st．there be eame and be really ogrand－
Ha，wítsiyue！adintati．＇Tsikit＇
Ho grandfather：hereally ogrand－
really ogrand
said father！
 Child body they bavenone grandfather he was say that he really ogrand－


 Awhile longer you shall attend to it he really Ogrand－
 Star small the st．there he eane and he really ogrand－
an ob．stond father！
Há．wítsiyum！idj＂tal．，Tsikí！
Ho grandfather！he really Ogrand
 Child body they havenone grandfatber he was say－he really of grand－

 Mysterions that I an l－not he was say he really ogrand－
 Awhile longes you shall attend to it be really ogrand－
 Bird red the one nest she was sitting in her he really ofrand－ mv．in the
past past

There he arrived and was be really ogrand－
太九九 Hí，iYYı́！é altká：ádi＂taú．Tsika！
Ho grand lie was he really ogranil－

| So | $\text { Oin'ly }_{\text {Chikl }}$ | oniya hody | Watiñ'yade. <br> they have none | (ivi añka: he was saying that | $\begin{aligned} & \text { adintali. } \\ & \text { he really } \\ & \text { said } \end{aligned}$ | Tsiká!' <br> O grandfather: |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Din' Child $_{\text {chi }}$ | Ofya Ieus have bod | Fixide ¢an't an to apt ny | é \&inlkc <br> she was say ing as she sat | additaı́ <br> he really said | Tsiká <br> $O$ grandfather' |

 said father:
Áhü-sáyi amá đin̂kcé כiñ'Ya áhü-sáki tatsé: ádi"tań, Tsiká! Wing Luard the other one child wing hard shall (be) he veally Ogrand-
 Crown of that ev. ob. child crown of shall walk be really ogrand
the head the head faid father!
!月 Íetsé yádiñkcé ,iñ’ya íetse ma"¢in' tatsé: d́ditaú. Tsiká! Mouth that ev. ob. child mouth shall walk he really ogrand-

Fore- this er. on. child fore- shall walk he really O grand-
head head
 Neek that cv , ob child neek shallwalk he really ogrand-
 Gillet that cv. oh. ehild shallet walk heally Oprand


Tsiká!
Ogrand-


Knee that ev.ob. child knee shall hereally ogrand-

(talf of leg that ev. ob, child calf of shall he really ogrand-
$10:$ Síqeqse yáciñkcé oin’’ya sị́eqse tatsé: ádintań, Tsiká!
Heel that ev, ob. child heel shall he really ogrand-

The that ev.ob. child toe shall he really orgrand

 $\begin{array}{ccccc}\text { Child cause without any ye shall walk } \\ \text { of } & \text { at all } & \text { ne really } O \text { grand- } \\ \text { death } & \text { said }\end{array}$

Yahiye-walayiña, of this gens, gave the following as another reading:

('hild human none as I goto inderd $\begin{gathered}\text { Ogrand- he really ogrand. } \\ \text { heings }\end{gathered}$ yother: said
father:
Translation.
As the children are not human beings. I go to you, O grandfather!

```
10f, , in' ya daníkatcíyar ma"lnii"' tádutsti: ádi"taú, Tsiká!!
    "(bikhrell yonare human youshall walk he really ogrand-
```



```
    1 cause you to he really \(\begin{aligned} & \text { Ogrand- } \\ & \text { speak }(?)\end{aligned}\) said father:
```

The rest of this tradition was not obtained.

## Translution.

The following translation is arranged in lines to correspond to the lines in the original text:

1 The first of the race
Was saying. "Ho, yomger brother! the children have no bodies.
3 - We shall seek bodies for our children.

* Hos, vounger brother! von shall attend to it."

They reached one upper world and stoxel.
${ }^{6}$ There they were not limuan beings.
*Ho. younger hrother! the children have no bodies," he was saying.
" We must seek bonlies for our chiklren."
9 They reached the second upper workl and stood.
There they were not human beings.
" Ho, younger bother! the chihbren have no luxdies." he was saying.
12 " We must seek lardies for our chihdren."
They reached the third upper world and stoxol.
There they were not lumatu lx-ings.
15 "Ho, younger brother! the chiblen have no lrodies," he was saying.
"We monst seek bedies for our children."
They reached the forth upper world and stexal.
18 There they became homan beings.
still, the children were withont (human) berlies.

- We mast continue to spek loodies for our children."

2) They returned to the third uper world and stood.

The chidren were really without bonlies.
"Ho, younger brother! the chillren have no bodies," he was saying.
24 " We must continue to seek lestie's for our childrea."
They returned to the secoml upper world and stexd.
The chiddren did not find bodies for themselves.
$2_{2}$ " Ho, yommer brother! the children have no bodies," he was saying.

- We must make an examination awhile longer."

They retumed to the first upper world and stood.
30 They came to a red oak and were standing on it.
On a very fine day they came hither and stood.
Kaxe-wahö-sa" (the Black Bear), who wat then moving,
:3i) Came directly to them and stood.
"Ho, edder brother!" (said the Black Bear.)
" Vom shall continne to lorm my feet for me."
36 . Ho. Kaxe-wahit-wa"!" was he (the Tsi-u) saying.
Kaxe-wahü-sa" went to the star Watse-mya.
"Hu, gramilfather!" he was saying.
39 " The children have nu laxlies."
Watse-_nqa rephied. "(an 1 give the chihden bodies?
${ }^{-1} 1$ am not the only mysterions one:
$\{?$. Yon shall attend to it awhile longer."
Then Kaxe-wahin-san went to the star Watse-min"ya.

44 "Ho, grandmother!" he said:
"The children have no brelies."
Whe replied. " ('an I give borliess to the children?
" I am not the only mysterious one :
is " You shall attend to it awhile longer."
Then he went to the mysterions one of day
" Ho, grandfather! " said he:
5) "The children bave no bodies."
said he, "Can I give the chidren bromest

* I am not the only mysterious one:
if " You shall attend to it awhile longer."
Then he went to the mysterioms one of night.
" Ho, grandfather!" said he:
5i " The children have no loolies. grandfather!"
The Moon replied, " Can I give bonlits to the chiddren?
. I am not the only mysterious one:
60 " You shall attend to it awhile longer."
Then be went to the Pleiarles. saying,
* Ho, gramlfathers!

63 " The children have no brulies."
One of these replied. "Can I give boxlies to the children?
" I am not the only mysterions one :
66 " You shall attend to it awhile longer."
Then he went to the constellation called Three Deer.
" Ho, grandfather," said he:
69 "The children have no loxlies."
The latter replied. "Can I gise the children hodies?

- I am not the only mysterious one:
id $\cdot$ You shall attend to it awhile longer."
Then he went to the Morning Star. saying.
. Ifo, grandfather!
\%. " The chiddren have no bodies."
The star replied. "Can I give boxlies to the children?
- I am not the only mysterious one:
is "Som shall attend to it awhile longer."
Then he went to the small Star. saying,
* Ho, grandfather!
s1 "The children have no bolies."
The star replied. "Can I give borlies to the children?
- I am not the only mysterious one:

R4 " You shall attend to it awhile longer."
The female Red Bird. who had been moving, was sitting on her nest.
To her he came, saying.
8\% " Ho, grandmother!
"The chidren have no bodies."
She replied, "I can cause rour children to have (human) brwlies from my own.
(9) ${ }^{\text {M }}$ My left wing shall be a left arm for the children.
" Jy right wing shall he a right arm for thom.
"My head shall be a head for them.
93 "My mouth shall be a month for them.
" My forehead shall be a foreheal for them.
. My neck shall be a neck for them.
$96 \cdot$ My throat shall be a throat for them.
-. My chest shall be a chest for them.

```
    98. My bowels shall he bowels for them.
    "My thighs shall be thighs for them.
    "My knees shall be knees for them.
    "The calves of my legs shall be calves of their legs.
102 . My heels shall be their heels.
    - My toes shall be their toes.
    "My claws shall be their tonnails.
10.5 " You shall continue to exist withont any cause of destruction for your race.
    ." Sour children shall live as hman beings.
    "The speech (or breath) of children will I bestow on your chilhren."
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UNO" U'ÁME. Qi'dÁPASA" ITÁdE. ${ }^{1}$

Tradition of the Bald Eagle subgens.)

${ }^{1}$ This tragment of the tradition of the Bahd Eagle subgens of the Tsiou wactaye gens was told by Pahü-skă, the chief, to Hada-oünse, who related it to the writer on the following day.

Hada-oüse told some of the tradition first in English, but on chanting it in Osage he did not give all: so the former account is now given in these notes: "When the ancestors of the Bald Eagle people came to this earth they alighted on a sycamore tree, as all of the surrounding country was under water. This water was dried up by the ancestors of the Elk people, according to the tradition of the Upan ${ }^{n}$ or Elk gens: but this is disputed by the members of the Idatser gens, who are Kansa or Wind people. They say that their ancestors blew on the water. drying it up and cansing the growth of regetation. As somon as the water was gone the Bald Eagle people alighted on the ground. Then they met the Black Bear. who offered to become the servant of the Tsiou wactaye people. So he was sent to Watse-quya, who was a red star; then to Watse-minya, a star near the Morning Star; then to the Sun, Moon, and swen Stars. As the people jonrneyml, the Black Bear said to the Tsion leader. 'Brother. I see a man's trail. Here is the man." The stranger said, 'I am a young Hanya. I am fit for work. So they took him with them. Then they saw another trail. of which the Black Bear spoke to the Tsím leader. They overtook the man, who was Hañaŋtsi or Real Haña. By and by they reached the village of the Hañya utadanse. They entered the sillage and made peace with the inhabitants. Then the leader of the Hañya utadanıse said, 'We have some people come to us, and we will make them our chiefs." So the two wactaye were made chiefs. The wactaye were then sent to search for a land where they might dwell. as the village of the Hañya utadaņse was filthy and offensive on account of the dead bodies in and around it. This council was the first one of the whole nation. The two wactaye went out as mommers for seven days. The Hanya wactaye ( $\mathrm{Pa}^{\mathrm{n}} \mathrm{y}$ ka= Ponka came back first, saying. I have found a place.' Afterwards the Tsiou wactaye retumed and reported. The council was held again to decide to which

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4 Há, wítsiyué! oiñ'ya mníya wa¢‘iñyade, éyi añká: adi"tań, Tsiki!
    Ho grandfather: child body they havenone he was saying he really "grand
    Wakan'ła uoañ'ye ts’é watséqi ḑci" equń: ádi"tań, Tsiká!
    Mysterious road to die diffienlt I am indeed he really ogrand-
one
f) Wakan'ła yána déin-máoi, éyiyíe añká: ádintaú, Tsiká!
    Omysterious that lam I-not he was saying to him he really ond orand-
one ondy fatler!
    Cŏ"'ŭ"ckíta nıła"deqa¢é tatsé: ádi"tau. Tsiká!
        A while longer you shall attend to it he really \(\begin{gathered}\text { ogrand- } \\ \text { said }\end{gathered}\)
```



```
        Káxe-wahid-sa" awhile my yonnger attention we must make he really
        Tsiká!
        Ogrand
        father:
9 Watsé-qúya ¢iñkcí éłsi hi' nawi \({ }^{11 \prime}\) : ádintań. Tsiká!
    Male animal that the std. to it arrived and he really ogrand-
touched a foe
stood
an. ob.
        Há. wítsiyué! ,iñ'ya oníya wae̛iñ'yade, «yi añká: ádi"taú. Tsiká!
        Ho grandfather! child body they have none he was saying he really 0 grand-
    Wakan'ta moañ'ye ts'é watséfi de̛i"' e申aí: ádi"tali. Tsiká:
        ysterions road to die diffieult 1 am indeed he really \(\begin{gathered}\text { ? grand- } \\ \text { said } \\ \text { father ! }\end{gathered}\)
        OHE
```



```
        Mysterious that I am I-not hewassayingtohim he really ogrand-
one
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        Káxewahut-sa \({ }^{\circ}\) awhile my younger attention we must make hereally
        Tsiká!
            O grand-
            father:
15. W"ádaha «iñkcě̌łsi hi' navi": ádi"tań. Tsiká
        Bier to the st. an. arrived and he really orand
ob.
stord
father !
    Há, wítsiyné! oiñ’ya əuíya wa\&iñ'yade, éyi añká: ádintań, Tsiká!
        Ho grandfather: child body they havenone he was saying he really of grand
    Wákan’łá noañ’ye ts’é watséqi dẹi" e孔ań: ádi"tań, Tsiká !
    Mysterious road todie difficuit 1 am indeed bereally ogrand-
        one roat todie dimcuit 1 am indecd said father:
1s Wákan'tá yána déin-máor, éyiyíe añká: ádintalı. Tsiká
\(\begin{gathered}\text { Mysterions } \\ \text { one }\end{gathered}\)
\(\begin{gathered}\text { that } \\ \text { only }\end{gathered}\)
lam l-not \(\begin{gathered}\text { he was saying to } \\ \text { him what precedes }\end{gathered} \begin{gathered}\text { ogrand- } \\ \text { satid } \\ \text { father ! }\end{gathered}\)
```


place they would go. They agreed to settle at the phace visited by the Tsiou wactaye. Then four standards were made by members of the Wavaue (waniln gens, two for each side of the tribe. These were the standards made of min ma hat (swan or goose skins), and they were carried on the hunting road as well as on the war path. But the otter skin standards were always retained by the Waoare gens."

On comparing this version with that of Sadekide we notice that in one or the other a transposition of some parts has been made. In this latter tradition the appeals to the heavenly bodies and to the Red Bird were made before the journey to the four revolutions of the upper workls.
 Kaxe－wáhai－sat awhile my yomger attention we mast make hereally
＇Tsiká！
＂krand－
tather！
LaY＇りal \＆inkc（a＇tsi hi＇nac（in＇：adintaú．Tsika！
circle to the st，all．arrived and he really ogrand－
 Ho grandfather：child houly they have none he was say－he really ogrand－ Wakan＇za ぃวañ＇ye ts＇é watséqj d\＆in＇efan：adintaú，Tsiká！ Mysterions roal todie difficult latn indeed he reatly ogrand－ one
2t Wakan＇qa yána dyin－máon̆，ङyiyie añká：ádirtań，Trika！ Mysterious that $1 \mathrm{am} 1-\mathrm{not}$ be was saying to he really＂grand－ one only him what pre said tather！ cedes

A while longer you shall attend to it be really Ogrand－

ádirtaú．Tsiká！
he really o grand
 Star hy lay the st．at it arrived and he really ofrand－
 Ho grandfather：child body they havenone he was say－lie really ogrand－
W＇akan＇f：noañ＇ye ts＇é watséqi déin＇efaú：ádintaú．Tsiká！

| rious | road | todie | difficult | 1 am | indeed |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | dina |  | ， | said | father： |

30 Wiakan＇ła Yána dசi＂－máol，éyiyíe añká：áditaú，Tsiká！
 cedes

> Cŭn'n̆"ekíta lifat ded"dé tatsé: ddítati, Tsiká!
> Awhile longer yon shall attend to it $\begin{gathered}\text { he really } \\ \text { orand- } \\ \text { said } \\ \text { father! }\end{gathered}$
 Káxe－wáhü－san ${ }^{\prime}$ awhile yompger attention we must make he really

Tsiká！
f）grand－
 Bird real to the st．he arrived and he really $\begin{gathered}\text { stood grand } \\ \text { an．ob．said }\end{gathered}$
Hí．i川Yí！d́dintali．Tsiká！
Ho grand－be really okrand－
 ing that said father＇！
（Here some lines are wanting．Seethe other version for the appeal （o）the Ru\＆Pire and hev reply．）
 Inay land gomi at thest an．he arrivel and hereally orgrand－

Ipper gyration fons the cy there we were people be really ogrant－
worlit fatber！

onrselvess said father ${ }^{+}$


Ypper gyration the . theme they arrived and be really of grand
world

There we were not buman heings be really Oqrand-

Upper gyration the there they arrivel he really ogrami-
world fourth said stond father:

stood (on) said father!
 Harvest time the there they arrived and he really "grand-
stood
satid
 Ho younger brother! person one has leftatraid be really $\begin{gathered}\text { Ugrand- } \\ \text { father }\end{gathered}$
 Ho elder brother: person hasleft a trail you havesaid person ¢'́akøá ádi"tan, Tsiká!. this is be be really ogrand-
 elder Han ya young 1 am indeed he really ogrand-
brother: said father:

 ¢íakqá d́dintaí, Tsiká? this is he be really said ogrand-
father:
 Ho elder brother: Osage 1 am indeed hereally said ogrand.

Ní[k'ỉ(in'ka fodit siyd'ade tsf́: didi"tali, Tsiká!
People some left a trail he really satd ogrand-

Han'ya apart from lolge theirs that indewd he really said ofrand-
the rest

Ho persons some have come be really said Oprand
Tsiou VVátsetsi iqáde tsi' añká: d́di"tat́, 'Tsikí'
Tsiou Wátsetsi also have come he really said u grand-
 Child what is goorl they decided hereally said ogrand
for them
${ }^{1}$ Here is where the twor roads begin.

5s, ) iñ'ya yíwatañ'ya $m a^{n} \not \subset i^{n}$ tatsé, e申éyi añká: adi"taú, Tsiká!

('hild being chiefs over they twoshall walk they decided be reallysaid | 0 prand- |
| :--- |
| them | father!


('hild without cause they two sball they decided (?) he really of grand-
of death
walk
(6) Diñ'ya uyístn ex fsí 乡iñycé tatsé: ádintań, Tsiká!
(hild assembly there it shall be be really ofrand-

Child to become men in in $\begin{gathered}\text { in } \\ \text { order }\end{gathered} \quad$ land youtwo shall seek he really $\begin{gathered}0 \text { grand } \\ \text { your }\end{gathered}$
that

ádintaú, Tsiká!
be really $O$ grand-
said fatber

 in the
past
Tsíhe oiñ’ya
Lodge small

## Translation.

1 "O younger brother! we must see what can be done to make human beings of the children."
The Black Bear came to them and stood.
3 He went to the mysterious one of day, saying,
"Ho, grandfather! the children have no borlies."
He replied, "I have an everlasting road (in which I must keep) :
fi I am not the only mysterious one:
Yoll must still seek for help."
(On reporting to the leader, the latter said.)
"O Kaxe-wahit-san my younger brother! we must still see what can be done."
9 So the Black Bear went to the star Watse-pnya. saying,
"Ho, grandfather! the chidren have no bodies."
He replied, " I have an everlasting road (in which I must keep):
12 "I am not the only mysterious one;
"You must still seek for help."
(On reporting to the leader, the latter said),
"O Kaxe-wahü-san , my jounger brother! we must still see what can be done."
15 So the Black Bear went to the Bowl of the Great Dipper, saying,
"O grandfather! the children have no bodies!"
He replied, " I have an everlasting road (in which I mnst keep);
18 " I am not the only mysterious one;
. You must still seek for help."
(On reporting to the leader, the latter said),
"O Kaxe-wahü-sa", my younger brother! we must still see what can be done."
21 Then he went to the Seven Stars, saying,
"Ho. grandfather! the children have no bodies."
He replied. " I have an everlasting road (in which I mnst keep) :
24 "I am not the only mysterious one:
"You must still seek for help."

[^3](On reporting this to the leader, the latter said),
26 "O Kaxe-wahü-sa", my younger brother! we must still see what can be done." so he went to the Morning star, saying,
"Ho, grandfather! the children have no bodies."
He replied, "I have an everlasting road (in which I must keep):
30 " I am not the only mysterious one:
"Yon must still seek for help,"
(On reporting this to the leader, the latter said).
"O Kaxe-wahü-san, my younger brother! we must still see what can be done."
33 So he went to the Red Bird, who was sitting (on her mest), saying.
" Ho, grandmother !
The chidren have no berlies."
36 They went to the good land of day.
In four revolutions or gyrations of the upper workds, we became human beings.
Though we were human beings, we did not find borlies.
39 They arrived at the second revolution of the upper worlds.
There we were not (complete) human leings.
They arrived at the third revolution of the mpper worlds.
42 There we were not (complete) human beings.
They arrived at the fourth revolution of the upper workds.
They stood on a sycamore tree.
45 They stood there at harvest time.
"Ho. younger brother ! a man has left a trail."
"Ho, elder brother!" said the Black Bear: " yon have said that a man has left a trail.
"This is the man."
4s "Ho, elder brother!" (said the stranger) "I am Young Hañya."
[Tsion.] "Ho, younger hrother! a man has left a trail."
[Black Bear.] " Ho, elder brother! you have said that a man has left a trail.
"This is the man."
51 " Ho, elder brother !" (said the stranger) " I am Osage.
. We shall be Hañya people."
Some people left a trail.
54 Those were the kolges of the Haña utadamse.
(The Hañya utadaņse lealer sair)
" Ho! some persons have come.
"Tsion and Watsetsi have come."
57 They thought of what was good for the chidren.
They decided that the two should continue as chiefs for the children.
They decided that the two should continue without ansthing that would be fatal to the children. (And they said)
60 - There shall be an assembly of the children.
" You two sball seek a land in which the children may become men."
They two arranged for the location of a land in order that the children might become men in it.
63 The Female Beaver, who had been traveling, came to the confines of the village (of the Найya utaçanıse?)
(She made?) a small lodge (for herself?).
Good Voice, of the Mink ${ }^{n}$ nens, knew the history of the Female
Beaver, but he failed to keep his promise to dictate it to the anthor.

## CONCLUDING REMARKS.

An Osage said to the author: " We do not believe that our ancestors were really animals, birds, \&co, as told in the traditions. These things are only wa-wi'-ku-ska'-ye [symbols] of something higher." On saying this he printed to the sky.

Apart from such traditions or myths, it is found that even the taboos and the names of the gentes. sulgentes, phratries, and persons are oljects of mysterions reverence among many. if not all, of the Sionan tribes. Such names are never used in ordinary conversation. This isespecially the case in tribes where thesecret society contimes in all its power, as among the () asage, the Ponka, and the Kansa. When the author was questioning these Indians he was obliged to proceed rery cantionsly in order to ohtain intomation of this character, which was not commmicated till they learned about his acquaintance with some of the myths. When several Dakota delegations visited Washington he called on them and had little trouble in learning the names of their gentes, their order in the camping circle. \&co., provided the interpretes were alsent. During his visil to the Omaha. from 1 sis to lssa, he did not find them rery reticent in fumbling him with such information, thongh he was generally referred to the principal chief of each gens as the hest authority for the names in his own division. But he found it rery difficult to induce any of them to admit that the gentes had subdivisions. which were probably the original gentes. It was mot till 1sson, and atter questioning many, that by the merest accident he obtained the clew from the keeper of a sacred pipe.

The Jowa. who have these social divisions and persomal names of mythic significance, also have sacred songs. hut these are in the Winnebago langnage. It is probable that they are the property of a secret order. as they, tor, show how some of the gentes descended as lirds from the upper world. The names of the Wimelbago gentes and of some members of the tribe have been recorded by the author, who has also leamed parts of their traditions. He infers that their secret society has not hern alolished.

When a man of the Kansa tribe observed that the author had an inkling of the matter he related part of the tradition of that tribe, explaining the origin of the names and the taloos of several Kansa gentes. The ancestors of these gentes were spoken of as birds which descended from an uper world. The phratries in that tribe, the " Wa-yั̆" mi"-'tuñ", ( ${ }^{\prime}$ " (Those who) sing together," refer to mystic songs and strengthen the riew that the secret society exists among these Indians. Several members of the thibe have positively stated its existence.

As one phratry is composed of the two gentes. Large and small

Hanka, that have the sole right to sing the war songs. time may show that these songs. which. with their chart of pictographs, are used by the Osage, are substantially those of the serenth degree in the Osage society: This is rendered the more probahbe by the fact that the Kansa have grouped their gentes in seven phratries, just the number of the degrees in the society. And this arrangement by serens is the rule among ()xage, Kansa. Ponka, (Omaha, and Dakota. thongh there are apparent exceptions.

Further investigation may tend to confirm the supposition that in any tribe which has mythic names for its members and its social divisions (as among the Osage Kansa, Quapaw, Omaha. Ponka, Iowa, Oto. Missouri. Tutelo, and Wimelbago), or in one which has mythic names only for its members and local or other names for its social divisions (as among the Dakota. Assiniboin. Mandan. Hidatsa, and (row), there are now or there have been secret societies or . ${ }^{\text {The }}$ Mysteries."

[^4]
[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ The sound of this inverted $\underline{u}$, between $o$ and $u$, as well as the sounds of other letters used in this article, except that of the inverted $\varphi$ (which is a sound approxi mating ch in the German word ich), is to be found on page 206, Third Amnual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology.

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ It is probable, however, that the $\mathrm{Pa}^{\mu} \mathrm{qka}$ (Ponka) man began with the stick at the east, as he must use the right hand and foot first.

[^2]:    ' Meaning uncertain ; it may refer to the female or doe.
    ${ }^{2}$ See "Omaha Sociology." şs 14-16. 19. 28, 33, 34, 36, 56, 143, 248-258, and passim, in Third Annual Report of the Director of the Burean of Etlmology.
    "The literal rendering of the title is "Growih told. Twisu Peacemaker theirs." This may be translated freely by "Revelations of the ellers of the Red Eagle gens."

    4oiñ ya weháyiç, "The first end of the children " or " The beginning of the race." This reckoning was backward. The Ponka have a similar usage: uhañge, ct" end: uhañge pahañga tě, the first end or beginning. Idintan, formed by crasis from ade and intau, may refer to the words of the old men who have handed down these traditions. Tsika is unintelligible to the younger Osage of the present day. One man told the author that he thought it meant, "O grandfather," being addressed fo the principal Wakanła. He sail that it was substituted for another name of that being.
    ${ }^{5}$ The chorus or refrain at the end of each line is omitted in the free translation. as it would make confusion. If retained, the first four lines would read thus:
    The first of the race: he really sail. O grandfather!
    He was saying, "Ho, younger brother! the children have no bodies": he really said, O grandfather!
    "We shall seek bodies for our children": he really said, O grandfather!
    "Ho, younger brother! you shall attend to it": he really said, O grandfather!
    ${ }^{6}$ ÉYi añká refers to the preceding words, which were those of one of the mythic speakers. He was an ancestor of the Tsion gens. Here be addressed his yomuger brother. At this time the brothers were destitute of haman souls and boxlies, fomgh they possessed conscious existence and could talk, as well as move aluout from phace to place.

[^3]:    ${ }^{1}$ At this point begins the account of the Female Beaver. She was an ancestor of the Osage accorling to a statement published in Long's Experlition to the Rowky Monntains.

[^4]:    'See the author's paper in the American Naturalist for 188.5, entitled " Kansas mourning and war enstoms," with which was published part of the chart mentioned above.

