

"With spirit light."

"Mine eyes can see the echoes
And creatures living long ago."

The next one is intended to be humorous, although hardly fulfilling our ideas of a humorous song.

"Wahoo, wahoo, I am the owl,
I know the minds of creatures all,
While women weep and warchiefs
scowl,
I am the owl, I am the owl."

The raven was said to follow war parties of the Indians, and to be always present when a battle occurred, and their presence in large numbers at any particular place showed that a killing was in progress at that spot. The Pawnee considered the raven a sacred bird that attended certain mysteries. Its Pawnee name is Kaw-kah, and the Winnebago name is almost identical.

On account of his predatory habits and disposition to gorge himself on newly planted corn the crow has never been highly esteemed by the Winnebagoes. An amusing custom has grown out of the crow's reputation for gluttony. At a ceremonial feast, the Indians are compelled, by precedent, to eat all the food apportioned to them, or call for help; when some one who is waiting for that purpose gives the same call and rushes to the assistance of his stranded friend.

The Apaches have great confidence in the signals which they say the crows make to them, especially the warning given them of an enemies approach. The Pawnee Indians have an explanation of the crows carrion eating propensities, which, briefly, is as follows: When the world was young, and humans had been on earth for only a short time, these people who had been created by the gods, became presumptuous and insulted the sun in various ways, such as by hooting at it and calling it vile names, and in vari-

ous other ways. So Tirawa, the chief God, decided to destroy the men as well as various monsters, who at that time peopled the earth, by a flood; and he would then send a new race to people the earth. After they were all drowned, Tirawa sent out a bird messenger to view the earth. Then he decided to send a second messenger; this time a crow to whom he gave strict orders to molest nothing on earth, but the crow saw numerous remains of people that had been drowned in the flood, and began to eat them. Tirawa was displeased, and when the crow tried to fly back to heaven, Tirawa said: "Stop, you shall stay there forever. You have disobeyed my orders. You shall live hereafter on dead carcasses." The next bird he sent out was a bluebird, and when he returned, Tirawa said: "You shall be the chief of all the birds." He also told him that when the people were placed upon the earth, he, the bluebird, would always be present; that he should be placed close to the mouth-piece, upon the stem of the holy pipe. So to this day, we have the bluebird upon the stem of the ceremonial pipe.

The turkey buzzard does not inhabit the country of the Wisconsin Winnebagoes, but is known to the Nebraska branch of the tribe. According to their story, several of the water spirits were once shot with arrows and their companions could not extract them; so they sent for the turkey buzzard who was a doctor and knew many roots and herbs. The man who had shot the water spirits skinned the turkey buzzard and arrayed himself in the skin, by which means he succeeded in killing the ones he had shot. So whenever an Indian speaks of a good herb doctor, he will call him a regular turkey buzzard. The buzzard sails around in the air without flapping his