

## Translation

How bright is the moonlight!  
 How bright is the moonlight!  
 Tonight as I ride with my load of buffalo beef,  
 Tonight as I ride with my load of buffalo beef.

The author of this song, on meeting his friends in the spirit world, found them preparing to go on a great buffalo hunt, the prairies of the new earth being covered with the countless thousands of buffalo that have been swept from the plains since the advent of the white man. They returned to camp at night, under the full moonlight, with their ponies loaded down with fresh beef. There is something peculiarly touching in this dream of the old life—~~this Indian heaven where~~

"In meadows wet with moistening dews,  
 In garments for the chase arrayed,  
 The hunter still the deer pursues—  
 The hunter and the deer a shade."

## 13. HA'TI NI'BÄT—E'HE'EYE'

Ha'ti ni'bät—E'he'eye'!  
 Ha'ti ni'bät—E'he'eye'!  
 Nä'nibä'tawa',  
 Nä'nibä'tawa',  
 He'yäya'ah'e'ye!  
 He'yäya'ah'e'ye!

## Translation

The cottonwood song—E'he'eye'!  
 The cottonwood song—E'he'eye'!  
 I am singing it,  
 I am singing it,  
 He'yäya'ah'e'ye!  
 He'yäya'ah'e'ye!

The cottonwood (*Populus monilifera*) is the most characteristic tree of the plains and of the arid region between the Rockies and the Sierras. It is a species of poplar and takes its name from the white downy blossom fronds, resembling cotton, which come out upon it in the spring. The cottonwood and a species of stunted oak, with the mesquite in the south, are almost the only trees to be found upon the great plains extending from the Saskatchewan southward into Texas. As it never grows out upon the open, but always close along the borders of the few streams, it is an unfailing indication of water either on or near the surface, in a region well-nigh waterless. Between the bark and the wood there is a sweet milky juice of which the Indians are very fond—as one who had been educated in the east said, "It is their ice cream"—and they frequently strip off the bark and scrape the trunk in order to procure it. Horses also are fond of this sweet juice, and in seasons when the grass has been burned off or is otherwise scarce, the

a<sup>2</sup>a<sup>1</sup>-Sg.B-?a<sup>1</sup>  
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Plainscroft