

# The Revenge of Cloudman

An incident in the Dakota - Ojibwa feud  
1854

The August afternoon was peace  
Upon<sup>1</sup> Mendocza's shore  
And Cloudman's children wandered wide  
In play - and nothing more.

Some picked fresh berries in the wood,  
Some watched the passing clouds  
Some strolled with Red Bird to the lake  
That now delights the crowds.

Then sudden rang a rifle out  
Upon the quiet air  
And Red Bird's son fell backward dead  
In mid the flowers fair.

Was Red Bird's son to lie alone,  
No Ojibway to fall  
While Cloudman's whippers mourned their dead,  
The boldest of them all?

Not while Chief Shakopee and Little Crow  
Could count a hundred braves;  
Not while Mendocza caught the sun  
Upon her flashing waves.

Then call the<sup>2</sup> Medewakantons to war  
Upon their ancient foe -  
Wakkato, Chaska, other day  
To battle swiftly go.

1. The lake now called Lake <sup>over</sup> Calhoun between Lake Street and 38<sup>th</sup> in Mpls.

2. A band of Dakotas settled along the Minnesota River and on the site  
of Minneapolis.