

HOW BLACKFEET BAND OF SIOUX GOT ITS NAME

It happened that a chief named Hawk Shield (minor chief), a relative of John Crass, had a daughter, and chiefs didn't let their daughters run around. They kept them at home and taught them to do beadwork, etc. It was pretty hard to see them and young men liked to court them. Sometimes a chief's daughter lived to be an old maid on this account. Hawk Shield's daughter was kept at home a good deal and she had a lot of admirers, but they were not allowed to see her. One night the girl disappeared and they found that a boy from another band had stolen her. He took her to his own people, and on the way set a fire which burned the grass. The burnt grass blackened the girl's feet. They called her Black-footed Girl and came to call her band the Black-feet. He set the fire so as to burn up their trail.