

THOMPSON, ROBERT

INTERVIEW #12240
ORIGIN OF INDIAN CORN: 414

THOMSON, ...

An ...
Tad ...

Willie Byrd, Field ...
Indian ...
11-26-37

Indian children ...

bidden to ...
it around or to ...
an old lady and all the ...
and are cranky. If you do ...
you will lose it.

I have heard a story ...
how she made the first ...
great favorite of the Indians. ...
together, the corn ...
green wood lye of a ...

The story runs as follows.

"There was once a young man who lived with his
old grandmother. The young man would often go off
into the woods on hunting trips and be gone all day.
Every time that he went off on the hunting trips, the
old grandmother would always prepare the "sofkey"
which the young man was very fond. He thought

that no other Indian woman he knew could make such good sofkey.

Everytime he left, he came home to find that the grandmother had prepared the "sofkey". The young man began to ponder over this because there was no corn around the place and he knew that she didn't go through all the preparations in such a short time.

He finally decided to stay near the place and find out what the old grandmother did. He left on the pretext of going on a hunting trip. Just as soon as he left, the grandmother began her preparations for making the "sofkey". The young man was intently taking in all these things from a distance.

When the grandmother was finally prepared with her first steps in getting the water to boil, she leaned over into what container she was using and began to rub very fast under her arm. As she rubbed, corn began to fall into the water. She rubbed under one arm and then under the other and the harder she rubbed the more corn fell into the water. She kept this up until there was enough corn.

In all this, the young man had been watching, but he returned to the home late in the evening just

THOMPSON,

As if he had been told that

he started to make a hole in

the ceiling which would

him. His old grandmother

of know now that she has

you is the one who

just what he had

The old grandmother

out the secret; now, she

crib and lock me up in it.

and cracks. After four days

look at what there is.

The young men carried out

old grandmother and it was

he did as he had been told.

the corn crib, he saw all

flint corn, the white and blue

some people say that "the

it was not best to provoke

corn."