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CANARD, EMMA CHECOTE BELL

INTERVIEW. #12281
INDIAN FABLE.

261

CANARD, EMMA CHECOTE BELL. INDIAN FABLE. #12281.

Roosevelt Derrisaw,
Investigator.
November 27, 1937.

An Indian Fable
by
Mrs. Emma Checote Bell Canard,
Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

Once upon a time there were some young dogs that were invited to the wolves' den. The wolves were to have a big feast. There was one old dog lying in the dirt rolling and wagging his tail saying, "I want to go along with you." But the young dogs said, "No. You're no help to us, you're too old to go. You stay here." So the young dogs started off to the wolves' banquet.

When they got to their destination the wolves told the young dogs to come in and feast with them. They made them all sit in the middle. The chief of the wolves said, "You dogs have been killing our people all the time. Now it is our turn to kill you and eat you." The young dogs were all frightened. They did not know what to do ^{and were} sitting in a huddle looking at each other.

CANARD, EMMA CHECOTE BELL. INDIAN FABLE. #12281.

2

The old dog they left behind said, "I guess I'd better go, even though I am old." On his way he put on a wolf's hide, took a few wolves' tails and walked in before the dogs that were about to be eaten. He stood and looked around and started dropping one wolf tail after another. Finally the young dogs realized it was the old dog they had left behind which had come to be with them. They resumed courage and chased the wolves away.

This is an old Indian fable that has been repeated many times to show that young people seem to think that they do not need the older people, yet the older people are good advisors.