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TEN DESCENDANTS OF FAMOUS CHIEF CAMP AT LAKE KOSHKONONG

Band of Jim War Club, Remnant of Once Powerful Winnebago Tribe, Definitely Establishes Old Location of White Crow's Village

CAMPED on Koshkonong Creek in Jefferson county recently was a party of 10 Indians, a pitiful remnant of the once powerful tribe of Winnebago. Living in three huts, made of canvas, boughs, tar paper and matting, this little colony had spent the winter near the site of its old home and scene of its former glories a few rods from Lake Koshkonong.

Less than a century ago, as late as 1832, their ancestors, under leadership of White Crow, possessed a village of 1,200 people on what is now Carcajou Point, Lake Koshkonong. Historians of the Black Hawk War tell of visits of White Crow to the white settlements and the guidance he gave and part he played in the last brave struggle of Black Hawk, at Wisconsin Heights, when his warriors were shot down, his squaws murdered and drowned and his children stabbed by the bayonets of the frontier soldiers.

This little band of Indians who returned to the scene of their former glories claim to be descendants of a daughter of White Crow and of a brother of Whirling Thunder, another famous Indian chief known as Wau-Kaun-Ween-Kaw. Their maternal ancestor was famed for her beauty and after the Indian treaty of 1828, visited Washington, where she was known as an Indian Princess. Old Jim War Club was the patriarch of the little colony, or Ma-Ma-She-Be in Winnebago tongue. He was nearly 70 and for some time had been confined to his wigwam, where he lived with his wife, a second one, his doctor, Jim Crow, or Za-Na-Zinka. Standing Water, a daughter of his wife, Mary War Club, by a former marriage, and a little girl, aged six or eight.

MEN WELL EDUCATED

In another hut lived Tom Walker, Wa-Ken-Han-Kow (Snake Skin), married to another daughter of Mrs. War Club by a former marriage, and their little papoose, a bright little fellow of two. With Tom lived his old father,

Wa-Kon-Mah-Kow, Sr.

Two younger Indians occupied a smaller similar tepee; both were well educated, and one, Albert Thunder, a nephew of old War Club, had been bought up in a white family and attended the government Indian school in Kansas. He has studied several terms at Lawrence university. He is a veteran of the Spanish-American war and later served in the Philippines. He now draws a pension of \$6 a month for disabilities received in service. He was a musician, playing with the Bussyville band, and is an expert trapper and rifle shot.

His companion was a cousin named Long Marsh. He also was fairly well educated and the two engaged to work on an adjacent farm during the summer. During the winter and early spring they were successful in trapping and hunting and kept the camp supplied after Old War Club's illness became severe.

LOCATES WHITE CROW VILLAGE

Old Dr. Standing Water, or Jim Crow, is quite a character. He is a descendant of the old Menominee chieftain, Oshkosh, but on his mother's side he is a Winnebago. He is rich in the lore of the Indians tribes, he knows much of the early history and in his talk with Halvor Skavlem, the archeologist, told many interesting facts, as well as establishing for a certainty the location of the old village of White Crow, which has been placed by some authorities on the shores of Lake Mendota and by others at Lake Koshkonong. The village was at Koshkonong, on the same spot as the Carcajou club, and in its life was one of the most powerful Indian communities in southern Wisconsin.

Indian history tells that White Crow's village was built of huts rather than tepees. In his community at the time of the Black Hawk War were Broken or Spotted Arm, an Indian chief so named for wounds received at the English siege of Ft. Meigs during the war of 1812, Whirling Thunder and Little Priest. These three

were the chiefs held as hostages by General Dodge to keep the Winnebagoes from joining the forces of Black Hawk.

Old White Crow appears to have been considerable of an Indian. He is described by some as crafty and savage, drunken and treacherous and by others as the friend of the white man, a noted orator, not a warrior. He was beside Tecumseh when he fell in the battle of the Thames during the war of 1812. He signed the treaties for his tribe and in 1832 was known as the "Counselor."

ONLY SMALL BANDS LEFT

The Winnebagoes are not frequent visitors to this section of the state. By treaties and forcible removals they have been driven west from their old homes in Wisconsin. Once a powerful tribe, whose early history is closely identified with Wisconsin, they have dwindled into small, scattered bands similar to the ones which camped on Koshkonong Creek.