

Recorded by J. Owen Dorsey ca. 1890-94  
Reminiscences by Alphonsus Valliere

1)

**Before the Civil War, we lived there on the west side of what they called Sweet Potato Creek.**

*ma-zha<sup>n</sup> shi-ka-zhi sho<sup>n</sup>-ti*  
*mažq šikáži šótti*

land/bad/not, negation/and, still, yet/at, by, in, to = while there was not yet any war, at that time when the land was not bad

*to ski-de i-ke-a-we*  
*to skíde ikeáwe*

potato/sweet/they say = they called it

*ni e-ti k<sup>he</sup>,*  
*ni ettí k<sup>he</sup>,*

water, liquid, stream, lake, river/aforementioned, that, he, she, it/at, by, in, to = there, then, said of time as well as place/the singular lying object

*mi o-xp[a]e-ta-de-de-do-shi*  
*mi óxp[a]ettadédedóši*

sun/fall into/towards, in that direction, on that side = toward the sunset, on the west side

*a<sup>n</sup>-kni<sup>n</sup> a<sup>n</sup>-ka-t<sup>h</sup>a<sup>n</sup> na<sup>n</sup>.*  
*qknj ákat<sup>h</sup>q nq.*

we, 1<sup>st</sup> person dual, sit, stay, remain, camp, dwell, live, reside/we, 1<sup>st</sup> person dual, continuative standing/regularly, usually, often; past sign, when

2)

**Then, at the time, I was fifteen years old, and I was as large as boys are at that age.**

*e-ti o-ma-ni-ka kde-bna<sup>n</sup> ta<sup>n</sup> sa-ta<sup>n</sup> a-kni<sup>n</sup>*  
*ettí ománikka kdébnq-tq sattq aknj*

there, then/year/ten/and, when, since, as/five/to sit on = fifteen

*e-a<sup>n</sup>-na-ska [a]-ni-he ma<sup>n</sup>.*  
*eqnaska [a]nihe mq.*

I that size, me of a certain size/1<sup>st</sup> person singular moving/I do, be, use, have = I was

3)

**Then, at that time, my stepfather took from me the only horse that I had, and he traded it away on me.**

*e-ti i<sup>n</sup>-ta-te zhi-ka sho<sup>n</sup>-ke-a-kni<sup>n</sup>*  
*ettí jttátte-žika šqkeáknj*

there, then/my father/small, little, young = my stepfather/dog/to sit on = horse

*e-na<sup>n</sup> hi a<sup>n</sup>-ta<sup>n</sup> [a]-ni-he ta<sup>n</sup>,*

*ená-hi áttá [a]nihé-tá,*

aforementioned, that, he, she, it/only, just, alone/very, intensifier = only that/I possess, I have/1<sup>st</sup> person singular moving/and, when, since, as

*a<sup>n</sup>-ki-ni<sup>n</sup> hi-d[e] a-ta<sup>n</sup>*

*qkínj hid[e] á-tá*

to have taken my property/and

*i-ki-k[a-i<sup>n</sup>] a<sup>n</sup>-ki-de t<sup>h</sup>e.*

*ikkikk[áj] ákkide t<sup>h</sup>é.*

to trade, barter, exchange/to cause for me = he traded it away on me, he traded it to my disadvantage/the past act, completed action; narrative marker; the singular, standing or collection

4)

**Then, at that time, he rode away on my horse, and when he returned, he brought back a roan mare.**

*e-ti hi-de t<sup>h</sup>e na<sup>n</sup>,*

*ettí hidé t<sup>h</sup>e-ná,*

there, then/to have gone somewhere/the past act, completed action; narrative marker; the singular, standing or collection/regularly, usually, often; past sign, when

*sho<sup>n</sup>-ke-a-kni<sup>n</sup> wi-ta a-kni<sup>n</sup> a-ta<sup>n</sup> de t<sup>h</sup>e na<sup>n</sup>,*

*šókeáknj witta áknj attá de t<sup>h</sup>é-ná,*

horse/my, mine/to sit on = he rode it/and/to go/the past act, completed action; narrative marker; the singular, standing or collection/regularly, usually, often; past sign, when

*kdi na<sup>n</sup>*

*kdí-ná*

to have come back here/regularly, usually, often; past sign, when

*sho<sup>n</sup>-ke-a-kni<sup>n</sup> wa-x'ó xo-te zhi-hi a-ni<sup>n</sup> kdi.*

*šókeáknj waxʔó xotté žihí anj kdi.*

horse/woman/gray/reddish yellow = roan/to have brought back here

5)

**The horse was very old and had recently become stringhalt in the right hind leg.**

*sho<sup>n</sup>-ke-a-kni<sup>n</sup> t<sup>h</sup>a<sup>n</sup> zhe-ka*

*šókeáknj t<sup>h</sup>á žeká*

horse/3<sup>rd</sup> person singular standing; the standing/a man's leg, hind leg of animal

*e-ta de-de te-ta*

*ettá déde tsetta*

aforementioned, that, he, she, it/to, at, toward, in that direction = there/to cause to go, sent away, went, to go this way/to the, at the = on the right side

*hi di-ko sha<sup>n</sup>-t<sup>h</sup>a<sup>n</sup>*

*hi dikko šát<sup>h</sup>q*

leg or bone/drawn up, cramped, hobbled = stringhalt/newly, not so formerly the standing object, denotes a reversal of a previous act, state, etc.

*sho<sup>n</sup>-ke-a-kni<sup>n</sup> na<sup>n</sup>-ha<sup>n</sup> hi.*

*šókeáknj náhq hí.*

horse/old, grown up, mature, raised/very, intensifier or arrive, reach there, have been

6)

**So, he didn't even tell me, despite that it was my horse, he traded it away on me without even telling me, I was extremely displeased.**

*ko-i-sho<sup>n</sup>-ta<sup>n</sup>*

*kóišóttq*

that, there/and, still, yet/and, when, since, as = then, thus, accordingly, in that way, therefore

*a<sup>n</sup>-ki-da-zhi hi,*

*ákidáži hí,*

tell something to me/not, negation/very, intensifier = he did not tell me at all

*sho<sup>n</sup>-ke-a-kni<sup>n</sup> wi-ta ko-i-sho<sup>n</sup>*

*šókeáknj witta kóišó*

horse/my, mine/then, despite, notwithstanding; so, or in that case, of that sort

*i-ki-k[a-i<sup>n</sup>] a<sup>n</sup>-ki-de t<sup>h</sup>e.*

*ikkikk[áj] ákkide t<sup>h</sup>é.*

to trade, barter, exchange/to cause for me = he traded it away on me, he traded it to my disadvantage/the past act, completed action; narrative marker; the singular, standing or collection

*a<sup>n</sup>-ki-da-zhi hi t<sup>h</sup>e a<sup>n</sup>-sho<sup>n</sup>-zhi a-ta-pa.*

*ákidáži hí t<sup>h</sup>e qšóži áttappa.*

tell something to me/not, negation/very, intensifier/the past act, completed action; narrative marker; the singular, standing or collection/I am pleased/not, negation = I am displeased/too, great, exceeding, often, always

7)

**Then I told my mother, when I told her, this is what I said,**

*e-sho<sup>n</sup> i<sup>n</sup>-da o-a-ki-bda,*

*ešó idá óakibdá,*

aforementioned, that, he, she, it/and, still, yet = then, at length, and/my mother/I tell something to another, my relation

*o-a-ki-bda ti de she [i]-he,*  
*óakibdá-tti dé še [i]-hé,*

I tell something to another, my relation/at, by, in, to = when I told her/this/that, that visible thing;  
that way or course/I say = this is what I said, the following is what I said

8)

**“I do not like it at all that my stepfather, without even consulting me, traded away my horse on me.**

*i<sup>n</sup>-ta-te zhi-ka a<sup>n</sup>-na<sup>n</sup>-ho-da-zhi hi*  
*jtátte-žika qnqhodáži hí*

my stepfather/to ask me, consult me about something/not, negation = he did not consult me at all

*sho<sup>n</sup>-ke-a-kni<sup>n</sup> wi-ta*  
*šókeáknj witta*  
horse/my, mine

*i-ki-k[a-i<sup>n</sup>] a<sup>n</sup>-ki-de t<sup>h</sup>e.*  
*ikkikk[áj] ákkide t<sup>h</sup>é.*

to trade, barter, exchange/to cause for me = he traded it away on me, he traded it to my  
disadvantage/the past act, completed action; narrative marker; the singular, standing or collection

*a<sup>n</sup>-ho-ta<sup>n</sup> a-ta-ha zhi hi*  
*áhottá áttahá-ži hí*

good for me, I am good/too, exceedingly, much/not, negation/very, intensifier = I disliked it  
intensely

9)

**Therefore, I am going to go somewhere else.**

*ko-i-sho<sup>n</sup>-ta<sup>n</sup> e-ki-zhi*  
*kóišóttq ekíži*

then, thus, accordingly, in that way, therefore/somewhere else, elsewhere, different

*bde ta [a]-ni-he*  
*bdé ttá [a]nihé*

I go/future, will, shall/1<sup>st</sup> person singular moving = I will be going

10)

**I will do something for myself, because I think that I am large enough to acquire something for myself.**

*e-a-wa-ki-k'o<sup>n</sup>, ta-ta<sup>n</sup> o-a-ki-k<sup>h</sup>e-ta<sup>n</sup>*  
*eáwakkikʔó, táttq oákik<sup>h</sup>ettá*

I do something for myself/what, something/I acquire, gain, possess something for myself

*a<sup>n</sup>-na<sup>n</sup>-na-ska a-a-ki-zho<sup>n</sup>-m[i<sup>n</sup>] e-t<sup>h</sup>a<sup>n</sup>-ha.*

*qñánaska áakkižóm[i] et<sup>h</sup>áha.*

I am large enough/I think about myself, I regard myself/this amount, this much *or* because

11)

**Therefore, I will work for my uncle.”**

*ko-i-sho<sup>n</sup>-ta<sup>n</sup> wi-te-ke*

*kóišóttq wittéke*

then, thus, accordingly, in that way, therefore/my mother’s brother

*o-a-ki-we-bda-bda te.”*

*oákiwébdabdá tte.”*

I work for someone, my relation/future, shall, will be

12)

**And then, at that time I ceased to live with both my mother and stepfather.**

*e-sho<sup>n</sup>-we e-ti-t<sup>h</sup>a<sup>n</sup>*

*ešówe ettít<sup>h</sup>q*

and, then/from that time, at that time, from then on = and from then on

*i<sup>n</sup>-ta-te zhi-ka i<sup>n</sup>-da e-na<sup>n</sup>-pa*

*ittátte-žíka jdá enápa*

my stepfather/my mother/both, also, too, that one too

*we-a-kdi-xe a-bdi-shta<sup>n</sup>.*

*weákdixe ábdištá.*

I live, stay with them/I stop, I cease an activity

13)

**And from that same time on I was working for my uncle.**

*e-ki-t<sup>h</sup>a<sup>n</sup>-ta<sup>n</sup> wi-te-ke*

*ekkit<sup>h</sup>qttá wítteke*

that of equal length/and, when, since, as = from that same time on/my mother’s brother

*o-a-ki-we-bda-bda [a]-t<sup>h</sup>a<sup>n</sup>-he ma<sup>n</sup>*

*oákiwébdabdá [a]t<sup>h</sup>áhe má*

I work for someone, my relation/1<sup>st</sup> person singular standing, the standing/I do, be, use, have = I was

14)

**He paid me twelve dollars a month.**

*mi-a<sup>n</sup>-ba mi-xti na<sup>n</sup>*

*miába mįxti-nq*

moon, month/exactly one, only one, just one/regularly, usually, often; past sign, when = monthly

*ma-ze-ska kde-bnan-ta<sup>n</sup> nan-pa a-kni<sup>n</sup> a<sup>n</sup>-nan-ki-da.*  
*mazéska kdébnattá napá aknj qnákida.*

iron, metal/white = money/ten/and, when, since, as/two/to sit on = twelve/pay to me = he paid to me

15)

**It was just two months later and then one day my mother sent someone for me.**

*e-ti-t<sup>h</sup>a<sup>n</sup> mi-a<sup>n</sup>-ba nan-pa hi ta<sup>n</sup>,*  
*ettít<sup>h</sup>q miqba nápa-hi-ttá,*

from that time, at that time, from then on/moon, month/two/very, intensifier, just or only when used with numbers/and, when, since, as

*ho<sup>n</sup>-t<sup>h</sup>a<sup>n</sup>-hi ha<sup>n</sup>-ba mi i<sup>n</sup>-da a<sup>n</sup>-kda t<sup>h</sup>i-we a<sup>n</sup>-ki-de.*  
*hót<sup>h</sup>qhi hába mj idá qkda-t<sup>h</sup>iwe-qqkidé.*

then, at length, it happened, once upon a time/day/one, a, an/my mother/to arrive here to get me, her own/to cause for me = she sent someone for me

16)

**I said, “What is the matter?”**

*“ho<sup>n</sup>-e,” i-he*

*“hóe,” ihé*

what, how, in what manner/question sign/I say

17)

**The messenger said, “Something has happened, your stepfather was wounded at the store of Crooked Nose and he was taken to his home. So, your mother wants you to come home.”**

*“ho<sup>n</sup>-ni-ha<sup>n</sup> di-a-te zhi-ka i-yo-wi ta<sup>n</sup>*

*“hónihq diátte-žika iyowí-ttq*

that is the matter, it’s this/your stepfather/wound someone or something/and, when, since, as

*a-kda-ni<sup>n</sup> kdi k<sup>h</sup>e,*

*akdánj kdi k<sup>h</sup>e,*

to have brought back one’s own/the singular lying object

*pa ka<sup>n</sup>-ka ta-t<sup>h</sup>a<sup>n</sup>.*

*ppá kka<sup>n</sup>ka ttat<sup>h</sup>q.*

Crooked Nose, the nickname of a white trader/from

*e-ko<sup>n</sup> da-k<sup>h</sup>i ko<sup>n</sup>-da,” i-e.*

*ekó dak<sup>h</sup>i koda,” ié.*

that sort, like, thus, like that, so/you arrive back at your own/to want = she wants/to say = he said

18)

**So, I headed for home, first thing that evening.**

*e-sho<sup>n</sup> e-ti pa-ze he-be hi a-kde.*

*ešó etti ppáze hébe hí akdé.*

then, at length, and/then, there/evening/piece, part/very, intensifier/I start for home, I head home

19)

**When I got home, there was no hope of his recovery, he just laid there breathing.**

*a-k<sup>hi</sup> na<sup>n</sup> t'e ki-ha o-ni-a<sup>n</sup>-hi-de sho<sup>n</sup>-k<sup>he</sup>.*

*ak<sup>hi</sup>-nq tʔé kihá oníqhíde šqk<sup>hé</sup>.*

I arrive back at my own/regularly, usually, often; past sign, when/die/finish, quit = terminal/to breathe/and, still, yet/the singular lying object

20)

**My mother told me that when she had sent someone for me, she said, that my stepfather was still alive.**

*i<sup>n</sup>-da a<sup>n</sup>-ki-da, hi-we-wa-ki-de i-e,*

*jdá ákkída, híwewákkidé ié,*

my mother/tell something to me/she had sent someone there for me/to say

*e ni t<sup>he</sup>.*

*é ni t<sup>hé</sup>.*

aforementioned, that, he, she, it/alive, conscious/the past act, completed action; narrative marker; the singular, standing or collection

21)

**Not long after I reached home, he stopped breathing.**

*e-na<sup>n</sup> a-k<sup>hi</sup> e-sho<sup>n</sup> o-ni-a<sup>n</sup>-hi-da-zhi*

*enq ak<sup>hi</sup> ešó oníqhídaží*

only that, him, her, it/I arrive back at my own/then, at length, and/to breathe/not negation = he stopped breathing = he died

22)

**It was still night, but towards day when they laid him out.**

*e-sho<sup>n</sup> ho<sup>n</sup> t<sup>he</sup>-ti*

*ešó hq t<sup>hé</sup>tti*

then, at length, and/night/the singular standing or collection/at, by, in, to = it was still night

*[h]a<sup>n</sup>-ba k'a<sup>n</sup>-ha-we.*

*[h]ába kʔáhawé.*

day/they lay something down, they lay out

23)

**The next morning, they buried him before noon.**

*e-ka-sa-ni ha<sup>n</sup>-b[a] [i]-ha<sup>n</sup>-ke ta<sup>n</sup>*

*ékasáni hqb[á][i]háké-ttq*

the next morning/day/nearly, almost/and, when, since, as = before noon

*maq<sup>n</sup>-t<sup>he</sup> de-da-we.*

*máqt<sup>he</sup> dédawé.*

inside, in, within, under/they sent away, they cause to go, they send

24)

**And then, at that time, I stopped working for my uncle.**

*e-sho<sup>n</sup> e-ti-t<sup>ha</sup>n wi-te-ke*

*ešq<sup>o</sup> ettít<sup>h</sup>q wittéke*

then, at length, and/from that time, at that time, from then on/my mother's brother

*o-a-ki-we-bda-bda t<sup>he</sup> a-bdi-shta<sup>n</sup>.*

*oákiwébdabdá t<sup>he</sup> ábdištq.*

I work for someone, my relation/the past act, completed action; narrative marker; the singular, standing or collection/I stop, I cease an activity

25)

**My mother and my older sister were all alone. Because they had only myself to depend on for support I stopped working for my uncle.**

*i<sup>n</sup>-da wi-ta<sup>n</sup>-ke e-na<sup>n</sup>-pa*

*jdá wittáke énapá*

my mother/my older sister (make speaking)/both, also, too, that one too

*na<sup>n</sup>-hi-na<sup>n</sup>-we ta<sup>n</sup>-ha*

*nq-hí-nq-we táha*

only, just, alone/very, intensifier = all alone/regularly, usually, often; past sign, when/pluralizer/because

*wi-e na<sup>n</sup>-hi a<sup>n</sup>-ki-to<sup>n</sup>-we ta-i-t<sup>he</sup> na<sup>n</sup>,*

*wié nq-hí ákittówe ttáit<sup>h</sup>e-nq,*

I, me/only, just, alone/very, intensifier/to depend on me/they will, they shall/the past act, completed action; narrative marker; the singular, standing or collection/regularly, usually, often; past sign, when

*wi-te-ke o-a-ki-we-bda-bda a-bdi-shta<sup>n</sup>.*

*wittéke oákiwébdabdá ábdištq.*

my mother's brother/I work for someone, my relation/I stop, I cease an activity