

of 1636 (vol. x. of this series, p. 129). Hale relates a similar tale as given by an old Huron—"perhaps the most complete account of the Huron cosmogonic myth which has yet been obtained" (*Jour. Amer. Folk-Lore*, vol. i., pp. 178-183). Cf. Cusick's *Ancient History of the Six Nations* (Lockport, N. Y., 1848), p. 13.

The Delawares also fancied that "an enormous tortoise carried the world on its back;" see Loskiel's *Mission among Indians of N. America* (Latrobe's trans., London, 1794), part 1, p. 30. Cf. Heckewelder's "Indian Nations," in *Amer. Philos. Soc. Trans.* (Hist. and Lit. Com.), vol. i. (Phila., 1819), p. 246: "The Tortoise, or as it is commonly called, the *Turtle* tribe, among the Lenape, claims a superiority and ascendancy over the others, because their *relation*, the great Tortoise, a fabled monster, the Atlas of their mythology, bears according to their traditions this great *island* on his back, and also because he is amphibious, and can live both on land and in the water, which neither of the heads of the other tribe[s] can do." Cf. also the "Walam Olum" of the Lenape, as given in Brinton's *Lenapé and their Legends* (Phila., 1885), p. 179; he remarks (p. 133), "The turtle or tortoise is everywhere in Algonkin pictography the symbol of the earth." Schoolcraft makes a similar statement.

In some instances, the tortoise was also regarded as a creative agent. Dankers and Sluyter record—in their "Journal of a Voyage to New York, 1679-80" (translated by Murphy), in *Long Island Histor. Soc. Memoirs*, vol. i. (Brooklyn, 1867), p. 268—the statements of Indians whom they met near the present Newark, N. J., ascribing such power to the turtle: "The true name by which they call this Supreme Being, the first and great beginning of all things, was *Kickeron* or *Kickerom*, who is the origin of all, who has not only once produced or made all things, but produces every day. . . . I told him I had conversed with Jasper or *Tantaqué*, another old Indian, on the subject, from whence all things had come, and he had told me they came from a tortoise; that this tortoise had brought forth the world, or that all things had come from it; that from the middle of the tortoise there had sprung up a tree, upon whose branches men had grown. That was true, he replied, but *Kickeron* [*sic*] made the tortoise, and the tortoise had a power and a nature to produce all things, such as earth, trees, and the like, which God wished through it to produce, or have produced."

Peter Jones (*Ojebway Indians*, p. 255) states that in 1837 he saw, near the N. E. shore of Lake Huron, an island on which there was a large rock shaped like a turtle, to which "the heathen Indians frequently offered their devotions and sacrifices;" and he found beneath its head several pieces of tobacco, evidently left there by the Indians as such offerings.