

Body carried two ears of
completely with grains.

and with the head to the west,
with their tips to the east.

skin with its head to the east.
of a white eagle; under the

Then they told the people to
Between the skins the white

and from the west. While the
Mirage People, came and

four times. As they walked,
the buckskins, were seen

ished their walk, the upper
disappeared; a man and a

the yellow ear the woman,
and that gave them life, and it

now that gives us life. When

ure of brushwood, and when
man went in. The gods told

wife."

are hermaphrodite twins. In

a girl, who grew to maturity
as husband and wife. In all,

of twins, and all except the

en, the gods came again and

the eastern mountain, dwell-
ere for four days, and when

to the eastern mountain for

the awful secrets of witch-
they returned, they would

good things they needed—

ely related to them, which

then had done. After they

the brothers and sisters

the brothers now married

sisters married men of the

even their new families,

gods. Every four days the

maturity in four days, then married,
ery four days. In this way many
man filled the land with people.

by Washington Matthews

97.

l the world for the first people to be
lars have been trying for years to find

HOW MEN AND WOMEN GOT TOGETHER

[BLOOD-PIEGAN]

Old Man had made the world and everything on it. He had done every-
thing well, except that he had put the men in one place and the women
in another, quite a distance away. So they lived separately for a while.

Men and women did everything in exactly the same way. Both had
buffalo jumps—steep cliffs over which they chased buffalo herds so that
the animals fell to their death at the foot of the cliff. Then both the men
and the women butchered the dead animals. This meat was their only
food; they had not yet discovered other things that were good to eat.

After a while the men learned how to make bows and arrows. The
women learned how to tan buffalo hides and make tipis and beautiful
robes decorated with porcupine quills.

One day Old Man said to himself: "I think I did everything well, but
I made one bad mistake, putting women and men in different places.
There's no joy or pleasure in that. Men and women are different from
each other, and these different things must be made to unite so that
there will be more people. I must make men mate with women. I will
put some pleasure, some good feeling into it; otherwise the men won't
be keen to do what is necessary. I myself must set an example."

Old Man went over to where the women were living. He traveled for

four days and four nights before he saw the women in their camp. He was hiding behind some trees, watching. He said to himself: "Ho, what a good life they're having! They have these fine tipis made of tanned buffalo hide, while we men have only brush shelters or raw, stinking, green hides to cover us. And look what fine clothes they wear, while we have to go around with a few pelts around our loins! Really, I made a mistake putting the women so far away from us. They must live with us and make fine tents and beautiful clothes for us also. I'll go back and ask the other men how they feel about this."

So Old Man went back to his camp and told the men what he had seen. When they heard about all the useful and beautiful things the women had, the men said: "Let's go over there and get together with these different human beings."

"It's not only those things that are worth having," said Old Man. "There's something else—a very pleasurable thing I plan on creating."

Now, while this was going on in the men's camp, the chief of the women's village had discovered the tracks Old Man had made while prowling around. She sent a young woman to follow them and report back. The young woman arrived near the men's camp, hid herself, and watched for a short while. Then she hurried back to the women as fast as she could and told everybody: "There's a camp over there with human beings living in it. They seem different from us, taller and stronger. Oh, sisters, these beings live very well, better than us. They have a thing shooting sharp sticks, and with these they kill many kinds of game—food that we don't have. They are never hungry."

When they heard this, all the women said: "How we wish that these strange human beings would come here and kill all kinds of food for us!" When the women were finishing their meeting, the men were already over the hill toward them. The women looked at the men and saw how shabbily dressed they were, with just a little bit of rawhide around their loins. They looked at the men's matted hair, smelled the strong smell coming from their unwashed bodies. They looked at their dirty skin. They said to each other: "These beings called men don't know how to live. They have no proper clothes. They're dirty; they smell. We don't want people like these." The woman chief hurled a rock at Old Man, shouting: "Go away!" Then all the women threw rocks and shouted "Go away!"

Old Man said: "It was no mistake putting these creatures far away from us. Women are dangerous. I shouldn't have created them." Then Old Man and all the men went back to their own place.

After the men left, the woman chief had second thoughts. "These poor men," she said, "they don't know any better, but we could teach