

**PUBLICATIONS OF THE
AMERICAN
ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY,
VOL. IV: MAIDU TEXTS**

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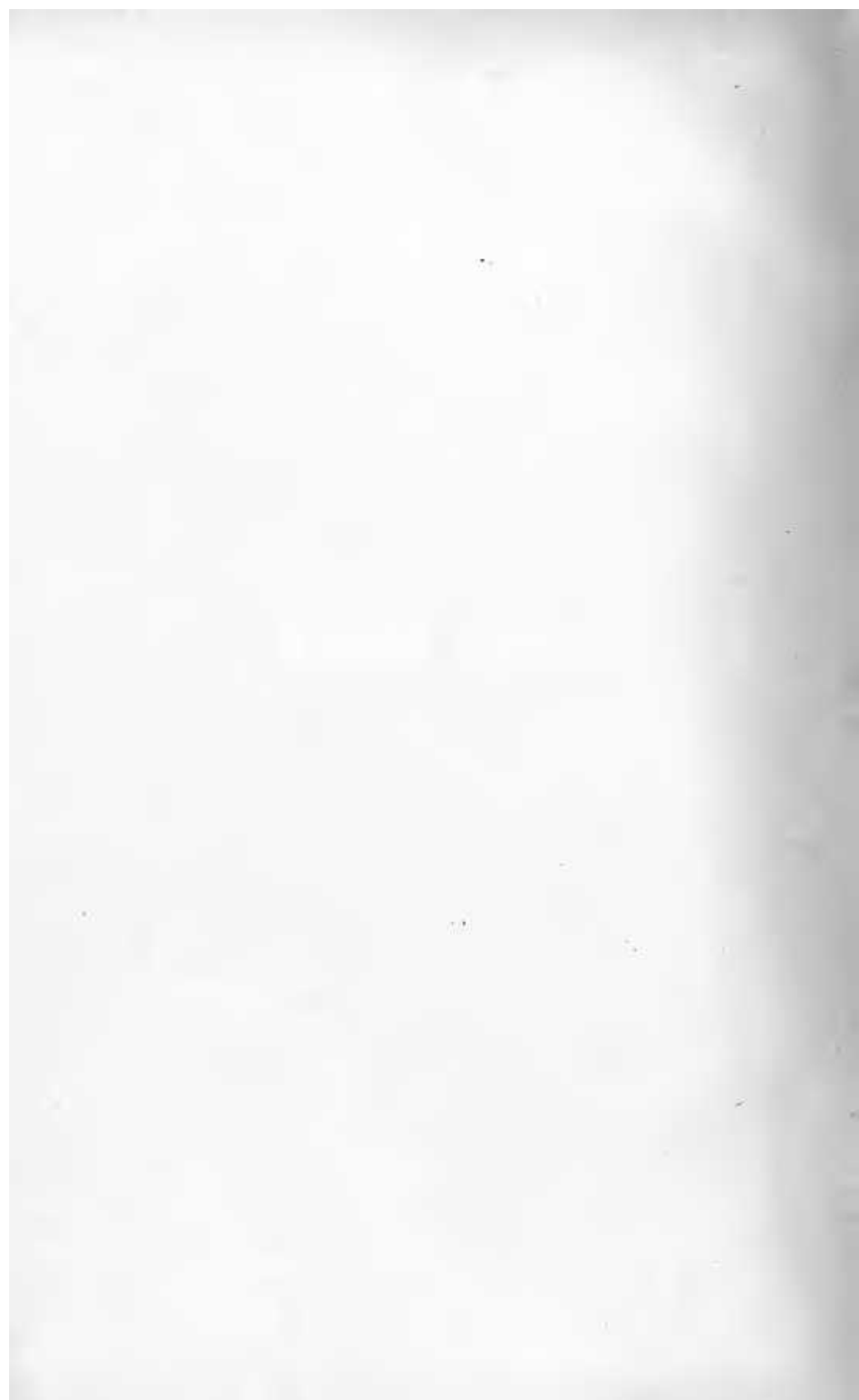
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ROLAND B. DIXON

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MAIDU TEXTS



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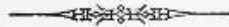
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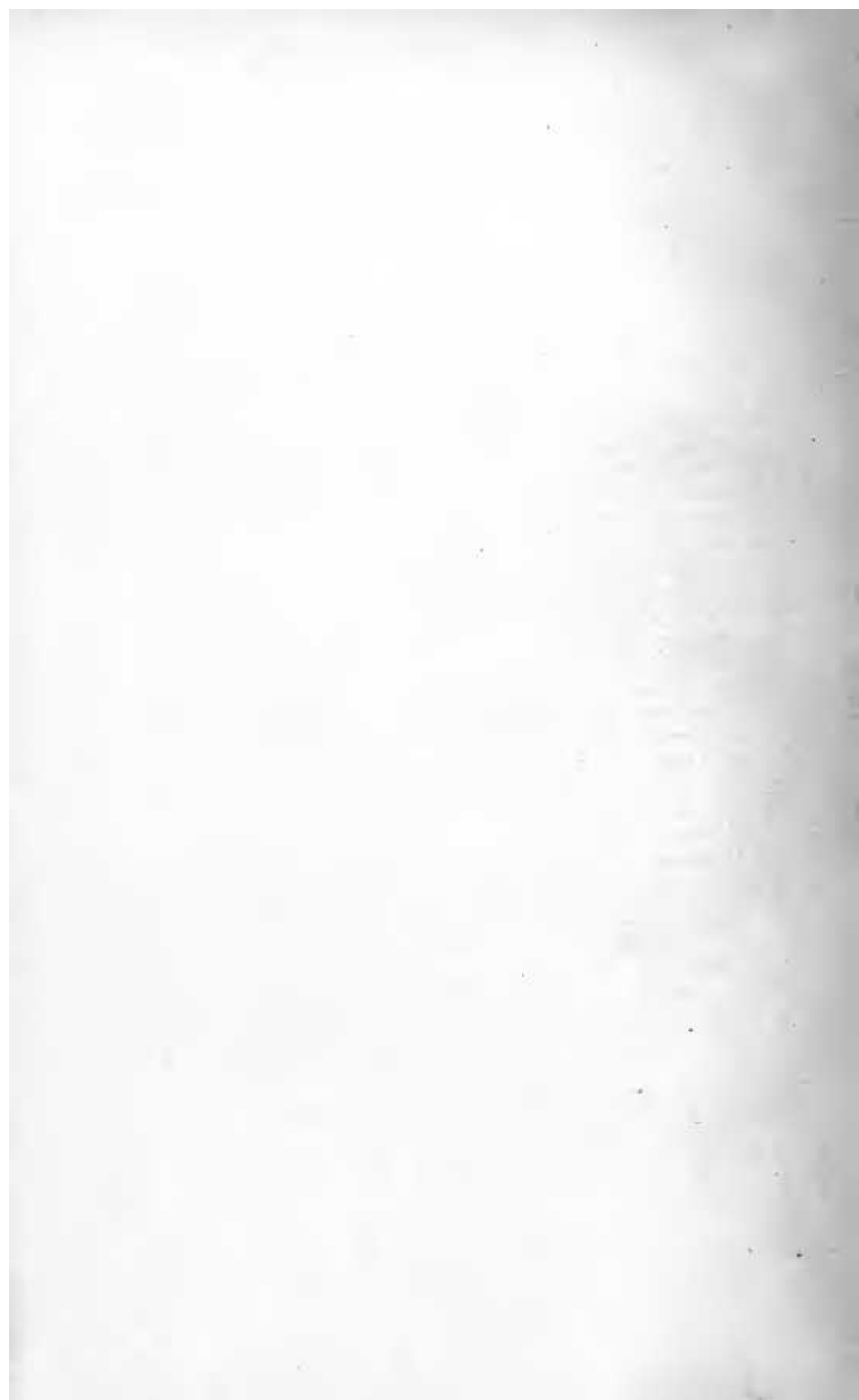
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INTRODUCTION.

THE texts here presented form a part of the linguistic material collected during the years 1902 and 1903 for the California Expedition of the American Museum of Natural History in New York, which was maintained through the liberality of the late Mr. C. P. Huntington. All of the texts were secured at Genesee, Plumas County, California, from Tom Young, a half Maidu, half Atsugewi man, who, although only about thirty years of age, possessed an extensive knowledge of the myths of the Maidu of this region. The dialect in which the myths are recorded is that of the Northeastern Maidu, of which a grammatical sketch has been published in the "Handbook of American Indian Languages."¹ English versions of many of these myths have already been published,² and also a discussion of the main features of Maidu mythology and its relation to that of the surrounding tribes.³

The order of arrangement followed, places first the Creation Myth, obtained in two parts in successive years. The various tales relating particularly to Coyote come next, after which the order is in general dependent on relative importance, or wideness of relationship. The nineteen myths given form but a small part of those known to the Maidu of this region, but are apparently

¹ Roland B. Dixon, *Maidu, an Illustrative Sketch* (Bureau of American Ethnology, Bulletin 40, Part I, pp. 679-734). Washington, Government, 1911.

² Roland B. Dixon, *Maidu Myths* (American Museum of Natural History, Bulletin, Vol. XVII, pp. 33-118). New York, 1902.

³ *Journal of American Folk-Lore*, Vol. XVI (1903), pp. 32-36.