Sihkimùs

Peter J. Newell Pleasant Point, Maine 1897

Source: Albert S. Gatschet, Passamaquoddy field notes 1889–99, vol. 3, pp. 369–76. MS 233, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. Retranscription and retranslation prepared by Philip S. LeSourd in consultation with David A. Francis, Sr., of Pleasant Point and Wayne A. Newell of Indian Township. Line (a): Gatschet's transcription, with his glosses. Line (b): proposed new transcription and translation.

- 1. a. [Title:] Si'hki'mus./
 - b. Sihkimùs.

Sihkimus (Low Bush Cranberry, here a name).

[Otherwise known as rock or mountain cranberry, Vaccinium vitis-idaea var. minus].

- a. Wi'git nda't'huχka'gĕn Si'hki'mûs. / my narrative about Si'hkimûs.
 - b. Wíkit ntathuhkákon Sihkimùs.

The subject of my story, Sihkimus, lived here.

- 3. a. Ni'swuk skinu'hsi'sĕk mädshiemi'-u / kĕduntki'-ĕk .

 Two boys all the time were hunting sons of Si'hki'mus
 - b. Nísŭwok skinuhsísok mecimiw kotunkíyok.

Two boys were always hunting.

- 4. a. keduntke'tit měskěmnía / hû'tän. two were hunting found a town, village.
 - b. Kotunkéhtit, moskomŏníya utèn.

As they were hunting, they came across a village.

5. a. Wi'hkwä''hlan ke'git Taken (as prisoners) on day b. Wihqéhlân 'kekìw.

They were taken and held all day.

- 6. a. wespasakî'wik / sûksakwa-an pieskĕ'mĕnĕl / next (morning, day) they cooked [the vic]tuals Indian corn. "is cooked for them"
 - b. Wespasahkíwik suksahqáhân piyeskómŏnol.

In the morning, corn (soup) was cooked for them.

- 7. a. ya'ha / nadship'han go and tell them go after them
 - b. "Yahàn, naciphàn."

"Tell them; go and get them."

- 8. a. pe'dship'hût ya'haⁿ kui'k-/ hûbalte'bĕn when they bring tell them (eat) / the two were eating the boys (imperat)
 - b. Peciphùt yáhân, "Kwiqhopaltìpon."

When they were brought, they were told, "We are feasting together."

- 9. a. ni'tä madshä'phaⁿ wiku-/-wa'muk. then, take them (the to the camp. right then people of the town)
 - b. Nìt-te macéphân wikŭwámok.

Then they were taken to a lodge.

- 10. a. Ya'ha mitsulte'bĕn tell them to eat
 - b. Yáhân, "Kmitsultìpon."

They were told, "We are all eating."

11. a. pe'sk8s / skinû'ksis wi'hkwe''hlan gatkû'kĕl / na'ga tû'dshiu one boy take (the pot) pot, kettle and then

kutu''hsmen pie'skaměněněl. / drink (what was in the pot) the corn (-soup)

b. Péskuhs skinúhsis wihqéhlan katkúhkol, naka tucìw 'qotúhsŏmin piyeskómŏnol.

One of the boys picked up the pot, and right away he drank the corn soup.

- 12. a. Ne'ka'hlāt kwasa''hkaⁿ when through with throw away (the pot)
 - b. Nekkahlàt 'qasáhkan.

When he had drunk everything in (the pot), he threw it away.

- 13. a. nutep'hua'nia / siwe'ssĕl run ye away (both boys) his brother out of the camp o. & younger
 - b. Nutephuwániya 'siwéhsol.

He ran out with his brother.

- 14. a. ma'lamde be'tka-udūk mus-/sumswal Si'hki'mûs . then afterwards they arrived there to grand-/fathers home to Si'hkimus
 - b. Malom-ŏte petkawŏtúwok muhsumsuwàhk Sihkimùs.

Finally they arrived at the home of their grandfather Sihkimus.

15. a. Tiugû'nia gwänessis-/tuk kilwahu'na dä'mĕnuk kpä'dshi They told them the grand-/children to them to go by and by, when you they come

wik-/wa'mkum käba.
into the camp (subj. mooses)

[Here <käba> is joined to the preceding item by ligatures above and below the line.]

b. 'Tiyukúnĭya, "Qenossistúk, kilŭwàw=ŏna témŏnuk kpeci=wikŭwamkomképa.

He told them, "Grandchildren, you will soon have visitors.

16. a. winpa'sik hurry up (two)

[Comment below line, continuing through the beginning of (18): "(so as to get the meat for them who are coming, people of the town)"]

b. "Winpásiq.

"Get to work.

- 17. a. kedû'ntkäk8 mû'suk. those who hunt the mooses.
 - b. "Kotúnkeq músŭwok.

"Hunt moose.

- 18. a. Na'ga / ksukskitaha'nia ksuksakwaha'nia wetchku-/ ya'shik Then / cut the meat up for them cooked for them who are / coming (who come)
 - b. "Naka ksoqskihtahánĭya, ksukahqahánĭya weckuwyácik.

"And cut them up, cook them for those who are coming.

- 19. a. nitu'dshiu pe'dshia'tit .
 at a certain time they are arriving (dual or 3)
 - b. "Nìt tucìw peciyáhtit.

"They will be arriving right away.

- 20. a. Ni'detch/gessi'ti
 Do this what I told you,
 - b. "Nìt=oc kehsíhtit.

"Then there will be many of them.

- 21. a. ni'těna ktulloka'nia do this do this (2-3 of you)
 - b. "Nìt=ŏna ktolluhkánĭya.

"Now do this.

- 22. a. ktchiksĕdue'nia / tanieho'lep mind me / what I tell you them
 - b. "Kciksotŭwiniya tàn yuhuleq."

"Pay attention to what I have told you."

- 23. a. wespasake'wik tiugo'nia / mussumsu'wal kwenesi'stuk kistchkû'hä. / in the morning tell them their grandfather to his grandfather they are coming / of next day or tu-uk
 - b. Wespasahkíwik 'tiyukúnĭya muhsumsúwal, "Qenossistúk, kìs ckúwhe.

The next morning, their grandfather told them, "Grandchildren, he (the enemy) is already coming.

- 24. a. Winpa'sik8 Hurry up
 - b. "Winpásiq.

"Get to work.

- 25. a. tchuigi'stetch mitchua'gĕn get ready grub, victuals
 - b. "Cuwi=kíste=hc micŭwákon.

"The food will have to be ready.

- 26. a. Ke'ga / sak'hi'e almost / coming, in sight
 - b. "Kéka sakhíye."

"He has almost come into sight."

27. a. ni'tä kistäk mitchua'gĕn / get ready the food / prepared right there

[The first two items are joined by ligatures above and below the line.]

b. Nìt=te kístek micŭwákon.

Then the food was ready.

- 28. a. Nitä'hna sak'hi'an

 Just then coming in sight
 appearing
 - b. Nìt=teh=na sakhíyan.

Just then, too, he arrived.

- 29. a. naninske 'ksu-uk pädshi-/ ha 'dshik fifty are coming
 - b. Naninsk kéhsŭwok pecihácik.

There were fifty who came.

- 30. a. kisenagi'stä mitchua'gĕn all ready for them the grub
 - b. Kìs=ŏna kíste micŭwákon.

Already the food was prepared.

- 31. a. nitä / umit∫ultänia then / ready to eat, to begin to eat,
 - b. Nìt=te wmitsultínĭya.

Then they all ate.

32. a. ktau'kumus ti'an: "kwe'nĕsis tuk / tanetu'dshi kisipulte'tit kpitsna'lan old man told them grand- / when after eating loaded the pipe children with tobacco

kutema'gĕn / your tobacco pipe /

[<tane-> was originally written after <kwe'nĕsis> at the end of the line, then this was crossed out, <tuk> was written above it, and this was joined to <kwe'nĕsis> with ligatures above and below the line. <tane> was then added at the beginning of the next line before <tu'dshi>.]

b. Ktaqhómuhs 'tiyàn, "Qenossistúk, tàn etuci=kisihpultíhtit, kpitsonálan kutŏmákon.

The old man said, "Grandchildren, as soon as they have eaten, one of you should fill your pipe with tobacco."

33. a. nil nutema'gĕn tĕmhi'gĕni=pa'kĕn,

my pipe hatchet-pipe

b. "Nìl nutŏmákon tŏmhikŏnihpákon."

"My pipe is a hatchet-pipe."

34. a. Nita / kisi u'htĕmhade'te ya'han säpa'-unuk nâdshi-/ nĕmi-inän Then After they has have smoked, tell them to-morrow to come to see us (& sundown)

ha'ptch." again

b. Nita. Kisi-wtomhotíhtit, yahân "Sepáwŏnuk knaci=nŏmihinèn àpc."

Well! When they had all smoked, (the boys) were told, "Tomorrow, come and see us again."

35. a. säpa'-unuk pätka-ude'běn/

b

to-morrow My we are coming /

[Written below the line: "(these two words said by the boys)."

b. "Sepáwŏnuk npetkawŏtìpon."

"Tomorrow we are coming."

[In the bottom right corner of the page here (p. 372), Gatschet has written, "(up to here with Newell)." This notation may be a reference to Peter J. Newell, the apparent sory-teller.]

- 36. a. Wespasake'wik mädshaka-ude'nia udä'nek; /
 In the morning (the 2 boys) started to the village
 (!!next morning!) or encampment
 - b. Wespasahkíwik macehkawŏtínĭya utének.

The next morning they set out for the village.

37. a. nämat pätka-ude'tit kîsatchu'wi-u mitchu-/ wa'gĕn; when there they arrived all (v.) were ready victuals (there) (for the 2 boys) with (their)

[Written below the line, beginning here and continuing through the first part of (39): "(the townspeople and the as well as the boys travel forth and back in-/viting one another)"]

b. Nemàht petkawŏtíhtit, kisacŭwìw micŭwákon.

When they reached their destination, food was ready.

- 38. a. ni'tä mitsulte'nia, there ready for eating,
 - b. Nìt=te mitsultínĭya.

Then they all ate.

39. a. kisepulte'tit nitä / pitsnäwan mkwa' χsĕn after eating ready to load a pipe red pipe stone

3 2
(supply: tĕma'gĕn)

[An arrow points from after the parenthetical to a position after the word glossed above.]

b. Kisihpultíhtit, nìt=te pitsonéwân mgáhson.

When they had all smoked, the catlinite pipe was filled for them (the boys).

- 40. a. nitä ku'tsĕnman /
 give (the pipe)
 (said by the townspeople)
 - b. Nìt=te kutsónŏmân.

Then the pipe was given to them.

- 41. a. nitä hû'dĕman ready to smoke
 - b. Nìt=te útŏman.

Then one of them smoked.

42. a. kisu-u''htĕmat nitä nĕska'-/ wan . finished smoking ready for singing (one subject)

[Written below line: "(sing while walking forth & back to & from / the camp.)".]

b. Kisi=wtómat, nìt=te noskáwan.

As soon as he had smoked, the greeting dance was begun.

43. a. Ni'da ti'han nî'-îluⁿ madshäka-/ ude'bĕn ni'gĕnuk we are Ready told him you and I to start out (we two) to his home, (to go home)

[<ni'gĕnuk> and "to his home" are written above the line (on a single line together), with their intended position indicated by a caret.]

b Níta. 'Tihàn, "Nilùn nmacehkawŏtìpon níkŏnuk."

Well! He told them, "We are leaving for our home."

- 44. a. yahan ka'dama madshe-u'hsäběn told them not to be stopping, not to go
 - b. Yáhân, "Katáma kmacewsé[hpa]."

They were told, "You are not leaving."

45. a. Hantkäyu'-ak to Take care (of the boys)

[Written below the line: "(the granny had to do so)."]

b. Ankeyúwâk.

They were taken care of.

46. a. be'sku'hs kwisinûdä (-da'ha) / one (boy) got out, went on his way (to gr.)

[written above in <be'sku'hs>.]

b. Peskuhs 'qisi-nutáhan.

One of them was able to get out.

47. a. ma'dshahaⁿ u'hkĕmĕ'sk Munimkwe'ss / going, starting to (his) grandmother's the Woodchuck

b. Macáhan uhkŏmòsk Munimqèhs.

He set out for his grandmother Woodchuck's home.

48. a. tukue'dshi mû'lan ukĕmĕ'ssu(l), ti'han / ta'ntulu'kane Try (imperat.) told his grandmother told her what he was going to do,

we'dshi ki'si madshe''hka-ulti'-ek /
in or- how to get out of this place
der to (said by two)

[<tukue'dshi> joined to <mû'lan> by ligatures above and below line.]

b. 'Toqecimúlan uhkŏmóssol, 'tíhan, "Tàn ntolluhkanèn weci=kisi=macehkawŏtíyek?"

He questioned his grandmother; he asked her, "What do we do so that we can get away?"

49. a. ti'han kwe'nessis : kmi'llĕn wuluge'hs /
she told the gdchildren : I will give you green hide string
(the other was locked up) (cut from a raw hide)
kept aw[ay] fr[om] her.)

[Note added after "green hide string": "pl. -ssûl" {WAbn wlogas 'leather string' Masta 1932:56, Pen. wèlokehs 'rawhide string' Siebert D472}]

b. 'Tíhan, "Qenossís, kmíllon wŏlukèhs."'

She told him, 'Grandchild, I will give you a rawhide string."

50. a. ti'han yutu u'lugess kĕtsia'kan she said, this g.h.st'g you have to throw it into fire

[Here "you have to" has been inserted above the line, its intended position indicated with a caret.]

b. 'Tíhan, "Yùt wŏlukèhs kotsiyáhkan.

She told him, "Throw this rawhide string into the fire."

51. a. tekuaps-/kessik ka'detch it will con-/tract not see you|after going out of this place can be seen (nobody will see (two) you again)

-ka-udi'ek8 where they (two boys) go

[Written above the new line: "When the hide is curling up, be ready for start'g & nobody will see where you go."]

b. "Petqapskéssok, kàt=oc knomihukéhpa tàn elŏqihkawŏtíyeq.

"When it curls up, no one will see which way you two go.

52. a. ta'nedūdshi ptukuapske'ssik wuluge's / nitechĕna ki'luau madshaha'nia . whenever when it is curled hide be ready ye (two) to go away ready

[<ku> in 'when it is curled' has been added above the line.]

b. "Tàn etuci=ptoqapskéssok wŏlukèhs, nìt=te=hc=ŏna kilŭwàw kmacahánĭya."

"Just as soon as the rawhide string curls up, you two should head out."

53. a. Nämat / petka-ude'te mu'hsumsěk Sekie'mněs, ti'han / When they had returned home to grandfather or Sikimělěs? he told Sik'imus, (really a bush.)

kwenessi'stuk nsawa'tĕmuk his grandchildren take care of your-/self (be on yr guard)

b. Nemàht petkawŏtíhtit muhsums[uwàh]k Sihkiminimùs, 'tihàn, "Qenossistúk,

nsawátŏmuk.

When they arrived at their grandfather Sihkimus's home, he told them, "Grandchildren, be careful.

- 54. a. getunlĕgä′ba / kĕti′ näpuhugäba they will (try to) kill to be killed you them
 - b. "Kotunŏloképa, koti=nehpuhuképa.

"They will be out to get you; they will want to kill you.

- 55. a. mädshimi'-u ktaskuase'nia / all the time get ready waiting for them
 - b. "Mecimiw ktaskuwasiniya."

"Always be on guard."

- 56. a. welagwi'wik madabe-uχsa'nia kuspäměk / in the evening let us go down to the lake
 - b. Welaqíwik motapewsánĭya kuspémok.

In the evening they went down to the lake.

- 57. a. helapi'tit wetchkwa|basi'sik looking way up coming toward them they saw
 - b. Elapíhtit weckuwapasícik.

As they looked out, here came a large group.

- 58. a. na'skana-uhsu / many of them gathered up
 - b. Naskanágsu.

He (Sihkimus) looked discouraged.

- 59. a. utiogo'nia kwenessi'stuk : "widshukämsik8 / She He told (the boys) his grandchildren "help yourself her
 - b. Wtiyukúnĭya, "Qenossistúk, wicuhkémsiq.

He told them, "Grandchildren, help yourselves.

- 60. a. ta'tabi'wak migaka'nia with bow and arrows battle, fight them each of you (two subjects)
 - b. "Ktahtapíwak kmikahkánĭya."

"Fight with your bows."

- 61. a. nidädlipněsîtit / ready to fight alone (dual) right there
 - b. Nìt etŏlihpŏnosíhtit.

They fought there.

62. a. ma'lamda kägantki'ha finally almost sundown

long in the night or afternoon?) with piskie ['it gets dark']

[In an interlinear note here, Gatshet gives <tkihä> 'cold, adj.', <nki'ä> 'sundown'.]

b. Malom=ŏte kéka nkíhe.

Finally it was almost sundown.

- 63. a. miauxtälwan / wounded, shot
 - b. Miyawtélŭwân.

He (Sihkimus) was wounded.

64. a. häpmälwat hälnamte'ssěk su'an . / in the side, flank struck (by missle) by arrowhead

[Added beneath "in the side, flank": <epme'lwat, L.M.>, evidently a reference to Lewis (Louis) Mitchell, Gatchet's principal consultant.]

b. Ehpŏmélŭwat elŏnomtéhsok súwan.

(The enemy) wounded him in the side when the head of an arrow struck a piercing blow.

- 65. a. Ni'tä hälĕmi ki'pihat Si'hkiamus, Then when (he) dropped fell down Si'hkiamus,
 - b. Nìt=te elŏmi=kipíhat Sihkimùs.

Then Sihkimus fell forward.

66. a. näpahan he died

b. Nehpáhân.

He was killed.

65. a. Mätabä ksit. The end (of the story).

b. Mehtapéksit.

That is the end of his story.

[Added at the bottom of the page, not part of the text: <nitä me'tchie ndat'huxka'gĕn> "there ends the story", i.e. *Nìt=te mehciye ntathukákon*. 'There ends my story.']