

There is a spot in the Nullagine district where in Yammainga time a man and woman were cooking kangaroo beside a river. They raised their eyes and looked over the hills and saw lightning coming quickly towards them. Then they heard great heavy thunder and both were so frightened that they jumped up to run away. The man ran quickly but he did not go very far before he fell down and there he lay. The woman tried to run, but she was too heavy and could not move. Both were turned into stone, and cannow be seen near a creek amongst the hills of the Shaw River. If their own country men visit the place, the stone forms remain still and quiet, but if stranger natives come uninvited, the stone figures get up from their kneeling posture and stand and face the intruders who die shortly afterwards.

The Gascoyne natives believe that he goes to Bidjalin, a place north of Carnarvon about 10 miles. When he gets there he makes a fire and warms himself and then at daylight he takes a dive under the water and makes for an island 30 miles distant from Carnarvon, either Dorre or Bernier Islands. Here he stays, and occasionally visits his parajee (country). He dives and walks on the bottom of the sea. Where the Lyndon and Minliya Rivers meet (in the winter season) they form a great sheet of water, cheedarree, which runs along 60 miles and eventually empties itself in the Gascoyne. Between this sheet of water and the sea, there is a long strip of land about 8 or 9 miles across in places and running the length of the "Lake". On this strip of land no natives will live, as they say it is the ghosts' land. The dead men visit Bidjalin, then the island, then Boolbarlee (the north end of this strip of land is so called), then their own country, and go to and fro as they choose.

-----

The natives believe that the Kennedy Range is full of ghosts, but of a superior kind, who have flocks and herds and fine houses, same as white fellow. They believe that there is a tribe of blacks there who are aristocrats!!

Meen'ya'burra was the name given by Wal'baring, a Kaimera of the De Grey district, to two female spirit children, one of whom was supposed to live "up in the sky" somewhere, the other taking up lodgement in Wal'baring's own breast. Each of these two spirit children held an end of moordinarra (thick hair rope made of human hair) and sometimes the sky child drew the rope up, but let it down again to its fellow spirit. These were the "familiar spirits" of some of the De Grey natives, many mobburngur (sorcerers) having meenyaburra. The duty of these spirits was to look after the affairs of their owners. If the mobburn "magic" or "medical" powers went away from a native, the little spirits deserted him also. These spirits killed Wal'baring's first wife in the following manner :

Wal'baring's woman, a Paljeri, had while her husband was away shepherding married a Boorong man. (Boorong are mothers, uncles (mothers' brothers) and sons to Paljeri women) a wrong marriage to make. When Wal'baring returned to his camp, the woman came and lived with him as if nothing had happened, and when the meenyaburra saw this, they took out the kidney fat of the woman, roasted and ate it, and the woman pined away and died while shepherding with Wal'baring.