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CORROBOREE OF THE PELICAN AND THE CRANE.

Wanberr, the Crane, was a man of the bush, and Jallingmur, the Pelican, was a man of the sea-shore.

One day, they went fishing together. When Wanberr got a big king-fish, he broke it in two, and hid it away from Jallingmur. Later on, he put it in his jaggurda (bag made of spinifex fibres), and was taking it away to the bush with him when Jallingmur saw the full bag, and he said,

"What have you got in your jaggurda?"

"Only a little fish," said Wanberr.

But Jallingmur saw it was a big fish, and he said to himself,

"Wanberr is a greedy fellow. He wants to keep that big fish for himself."

They each made his own fire, Wanberr on the bush side, Jallingmur on the sea side, and both sat down and camped for a while. Wanberr made a big fire, and put on it his big fish, to cook it. He thought Jallingmur didn't see him, because when men make different fires and camp by themselves, they turn their backs to each other. But Jallingmur knew he was cooking the big fish.

While it was still in the ashes, he called to Wanberr,

"Let us make nooloo, (a dance)!"

Wanberr said, "Ngow-ai. (All right)."

Jallingmur called to the little jee-oo, a bird living in the mangrove swamps, but a man in those times. He said, "Jee-oo, sing for our nooloo."

Jee-oo was Jallingmur's mate, so he sang the song, and Jallingmur and Wanberr were dancing, when Jee-oo heard the fish make a noise in the fire. He stopped singing, and said "Koo!" to Wanberr, but Wanberr went on dancing, and took no notice.

Bye-and-bye they finished the nooloo, and Jallingmur said,

"That was not a little fish you had. It is a big fish. Let us fight, now, with our fire-sticks."

Jallingmur picked up a fire-stick from his fire, and threw it at Wanberr, and burned his legs. That is why the Crane has red legs. They were not red when he was a man in Yamminga time. His feathers are the colour of ashes.

Wanberr ran to his own fire, and picked up a big fire-stick, and threw it at Jallingmur, breaking his thighs. Now Jallingmur can never walk fast, and has to waddle. Wanberr was so angry with Jee-oo for calling out "Koo!" to him, and letting Jallingmur know that a big fish was cooking, that he hit Jee-oo, and broke his arm, and now Jee-oo can never go into deep water, but must stay in shallow water near the mangrove swamps.

When the men of Roebourne dance this corroboree, of the time when the Crane and the Pelican were mai-ago (men), they always sing this song :

"Kandi ngarree-maa bu-la-raa!
Kallang-a boo-jur ma-ree!

(Leave alone the spear!
Fight with fire-sticks)."

Jallingmur is now the totem of all Kaimera and Boorong men, and Wanberr is the totem of all Banaka and Paljeri men.

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