

# GURRE KAMILAROI: OR KAMILAROI SAYINGS

BY

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ILLUSTRATIONS BY W. MASON.

“To whom he was not spoken of, they shall see;  
and they who have not heard shall  
understand.”—Paul to Romans, xv., 21.

SYDNEY: PRINTED AT THE EMPIRE GENERAL  
STEAM PRINTING OFFICE, 172, GEORGE STREET.  
1856.

## *Gurre Kamilaroi.*

Kamilaroi is the language spoken by the aborigines along the Namoi River, on part of the Bundarra and Balun, and 200 miles of the Barwan (or Darling); also on Liverpool Plains, and about the head of the Hunter.

The writer believes that any one who carefully reads through this Key, especially the first 2 pages, will be able to pronounce the foregoing Kamilaroi sentences, and teach the aborigines to read them. Many of the aborigines, especially the young men, are very quick at learning to read.

It is very important that the rule of naming the letters according to their pronunciation in words should be attended to, as it will remove great difficulties from the way of beginners. How could an ignorant person guess that the letter called “double you” had the sound w in wit? or that “aitch” was merely a hard breathing?

The Christian into whose hands this little book may come, and who has any aborigines speaking kamilaroi near, is earnestly requested to consider, whether it is not worth a patient and prayerful effort to teach them to read those precious saving truths which are dimly and scantily, but in some measure really, expressed in these brief sentences.

## 2

*KEY to the foregoing "Kamilaroi speech."*

### *RULES OF PRONUNCIATION.*

Pronounce ā as a in father

a as a in mat

ē as ey in obey

e as e in net

ī as i in marine

i as i in it

ō as o in bone

o as o in on

ū as oo in moon

u as u in bun

ai as i in wine

ao as ow in how

oi as oi in noise

g always as in go

ŋ as ng in ring.

## 3

In English we use the sound ŋ or ng only at the end of a syllable; its frequent occurrence at the beginning of a syllable in Kamilaroi is therefore a slight, but only a slight difficulty. It is only necessary to use precisely the same consonant

sound which we have in ring, sing, &c., with a vowel after and not before it.

N.B. Name the letters as they are pronounced; that is, call g **ge** (as in get), h **he**, ŋ **eng**, r **re**, w **we**, and y **ye**. Thus the name will guide the learner to the proper sound in spelling.

*letters*

**a b d e g h i j k l m n ŋ o p r t u v w y ai ao  
oi**

*names and kinship terms*

ippai, murri, kubbi, kumbo. (names of men;)  
ippata, mata, kapota, buta. (names of women;)  
yarai, gille, taon, wī, boiyoi. (sun, moon, earth,  
fire, pennyroyal (herb).)

giwīr, inar, birrī, miē. (man, woman, boy, girl.)

kaiṅal, buba, ṅumba. (child, father, mother.)

wurume, ṅummuṅā. (son, daughter.)

daiādi, bōadi. (brother, sister.)

**4**

**Baiame gīr yarai, gille, mirri, taon ellibu  
gimobi.**

God verily sun, moon, stars, earth also made.

**Baiame yalwuṅa murruba; Baiame min-  
naminnabul  
ṅummilda, minnaminnabul wīnuṅulda.**

God always is good; God everything  
sees, everything hears.

**Baiame gīr kānuṅo kubba, kūnial, maian,  
tulu,  
yindal, beran, boiyoi gimobi.**

God verily every hill, plain, watercourse, tree,  
grass, beran (a herb), pennyroyal made.

**Baiame gīr yārāman, būrumo, bundar,  
mūte, dūli,  
dīnoun, buralga, biloela, millimumul, gu-  
lamboli, kobado,  
mullion, guiya, nūrai, ɲundoba, burulu,  
muɲin, kānuɲo  
di gombi.**

God verily horse, dog, kangaroo, opossum,  
goanna,  
emu, native companion, cockatoo, swallow,  
pelican, parrot,  
eagle, fish, brown snake, deadly black snake,  
flies, mosquitoes, all  
animals made.

## 5

**Baiame gīr giwīr gimobi; mal giwīr Adam.  
Baiame  
goë: “Kamil murruba giwīr ɲāndil  
ɲuddelago; ɲaia  
giwīrgo īnar gimbille.” Īla Baiame īnar  
gimobi; mal  
īnar Īv: Īv gulīr Adamu.**

God verily man made; first man Adam. God  
said, “Not good man alone for to dwell; I  
for man woman will make.” Then God woman  
made; first

woman Eve; Eve wife of Adam.

**Adam buba murrīɲu, buba wundaɲu, buba  
kānuɲo:  
Īv ɲumba murrīɲu, ɲumba wundaɲu,  
ɲumba kānuɲo.**

Adam is father of the blackfellows, father of  
the whites, father of all:

Eve the mother of blacks, mother of whites,  
mother of all.

## 6

**Adam Īv ellibu warawara yanani. Kanuḡo  
giwīr  
kānuḡo ĩnar warawara yanani, kānuḡo kagil  
ginyi.**

**Baiame yili ginyi, goe, “Kānuḡo giwīr,  
kānuḡo ĩnar  
warawara yanani, kānuḡo kagil ginyi, ḡaia  
ḡārma bālu  
bumāle.” Immanuel, wurume Baiameḡu,  
goe “Kamil.**

**Kamil ḡinda ḡārma bumala, ḡinda ḡunna  
bumala, ḡaia  
balugi, giwīr ĩnar moron gigigo.”**

Adam, Eve also, astray went. All men  
all women astray went, all bad became.

God angry became, he said “All men, all  
women,  
astray are gone, all bad have become. I them  
dead

will smite.” Immanuel, Son of God, said “Not  
so.

Not thou them smite; Thou me smite, I  
will die; man, woman, alive for to be.”

## 7

**Immanuel ḡeanekūnda Baiame: ḡerma Ba-  
iame giwīr  
ginyi. Murruba immanuel; kamil ḡaragedūl  
murruba  
yealokwai ḡerma.**

Immanuel with us God: he God man  
became. Good is Immanuel; not another is  
good like him.

**Īlambo Immanuel taongo tai-yanani, giwīr  
ginyi.**

**ṅērma gīr burula wibil murruba gimobi,  
burula mūga murruba  
gimobi, burula mūga-binna murruba gi-  
mobi.**

Long ago Immanuel to earth came, man he  
became.

He verily many sick well made, many blind  
well made, many deaf well made.

## 8

**Giwīr  
kair Layāru. Nerṅu bular boādi, māri,  
māta. Layaru wibil  
ginyi. Bular boādi gurru wāala Immanuelgo,  
goaldendai,**

**“ṅai daiadi, ṅinnu layaru, wibil.” Kamil  
yanani Immanuel.**

**Yerāla layaru balūni. Bularbularo bābine  
bālūn**

**taonda. Īla Immanuel taiyanani. Mari māta  
ellibu**

**yūgillona. Immanuel goe, “ṅinnu daiadi  
yealo moron**

**gigi.” Burula giwir burula inar yugillona.  
Immanuel**

**daonmago yanani. Yārul daonma kundawi;  
Immanuel**

**goe “ṅindai ārul diomulla” ṅarma gīr yarul  
diome.**

**Immanuel kākūldone “Layaru taiyanuṅa.” Ī  
Layaru  
moron ginyi, taiyanani. Bular boadi burul  
guiyē.**

A man

name Lazarus. Belonging to him two sisters  
Mary, Marta. Lazarus sick

became. The two sisters word sent to Im-  
manuel, saying,

“My brother, Thy Lazarus, is sick.” Not went  
Immanuel.

By and bye Lazarus died. Four days he lay  
dead

in the ground. Then Immanuel came. Mary,  
Martha also

were weeping. Immanuel said “Your brother  
again alive

shall be.” Many men, many women, were  
weeping. Immanuel

to the grave went; a stone the grave covered;  
Immanuel

said “Ye the stone take away.” They the stone  
lifted up.

Immanuel cried aloud “Lazarus come forth.”  
Then Lazarus

alive became, he came forth. The two sisters  
were very glad.



### Jairus Daughter

**Ɲaragedūli miēdūl wibil ginyi; ɳumba  
 boiyoi wune;  
 kamil miedul murruba ginyi; murru ginyi  
 wibil, ɳullimun  
 balūni. Buba yanani Immanuel  
 ɳummillego; gir  
 ɳummi; goe, “Inda barai taiyanuɳa, mur-  
 ruba gimbildi  
 ɳai miedul. Ɲai miedul burul wibil  
 ɳullimun baluni;  
 inda taiyanuɳa ɳai kūndigo.” Immanuel  
 goe,  
 “Ɲulle yanoai kundigo.” Ila yanani bular  
 kundigo. Ɲumba duri, yugillona, goe “Ɲii!**



**Nii! Nai  
 miedul baluni.” Burula inar yugillona goe  
 “Nii!  
 miedul baluni.” Immanuel goe “Kurria  
 yūṇa. kamil  
 miedul baluni; yeal babillona.” Burulabu  
 gindami;  
 ṇārma gīr balundai wīnuṇi. Immanuel  
 murra kawāni  
 miedul, goe, “Miēdūl waria.” Īla miedul  
 moron ginyi,  
 warine, gurre goe. Ṇumba, buba ellibu,  
 burul guiye.**

At another time a little girl sick became; the  
 mother pennyroyal gave;  
 not the little girl well became; much she grew  
 sick, almost  
 dead. The father went Immanuel to see; truly  
 he found him; he said “Thou quickly come,  
 well make  
 my little girl. My little girl is very sick, almost  
 dead;  
 you come to my house.” Immanuel said  
 “We two will go to the House.” Then went the  
 two  
 to the house. The mother came, she wept, said  
 “Alas! alas! my  
 little girl is dead.” Many women were weep-  
 ing, said “Alas!  
 the little girl is dead.” Immanuel said “Cease  
 weeping. Not  
 the girl is dead; only she is asleep.” All of them  
 laughed;

they verily her to be dead knew. Immanuel by  
hand took  
the girl, said "damsel arise." Then the girl alive  
became,  
arose, words spoke. The mother, father also,  
very glad.

## 10



immanuel g̃r bular muga murraba gimḡbi.

### Jesus Heals

**Ɗarageduli bular giwir m̃ga ṅuddelona  
turrubulda  
Immanuel aro yanani; bular muga w̃nuṅi.  
Kākūldone,  
"Immanuel, d̃urunmi, wurume, Dāvidu  
ṅummilla!  
ṅurrāga ṅeane." Burula giwir goe "Kurria!  
kurria**

**ɲindai kakūllego.” Giwir muga yealo kakul-  
done**

**“Durunmi, wurume davidu, ɲummillā!  
Nurrāga ɲeane.”**

Another time, two men blind sat by the way.

Immanuel there came; the two blind heard,  
they cried aloud,

“Immanuel, King, Son of David, look!

Pity us.” Many people said “Have done! cease  
ye to cry aloud.” The men blind again cried  
aloud

“King, Son of David, look! pity us!”

## 11

**Ila Immanuel warine, goe “Minna ɲindai  
goalle? Minna**

**ɲaia murrāmulle?” ɲarma goe, “Durunmi,  
wuna**

**ɲeane ɲummildai.” Ila Immanuel ɲarma  
mil tāmūlda:**

**baianbu ɲarma murru ɲummillego.**

Then Immanuel stood still, said “What you will  
say? What

I shall do?” They said “King, grant

us to see.” Then Immanuel them eyes touches;  
instantly they are able to see.

## 12



immanuel baluni.

Jesus Cross

**Burula kagil giwir Immanuel kunmulta.  
 Ɲarma  
 kaogo bindēa yulalle. Ɲarma gir tulu wīmi,  
 Ɲaragedul  
 tulu Ɲanbīr wimi: Ɲarma gir Immanuel  
 wimi; murra  
 biru-dūni, dinna biru-dūni; tului wirri.  
 Ɲarma tulu  
 tiome, Immanuel tului pindelundai. Yerāla  
 Immanuel  
 baluni. Yerala giwir pilari turrur duni; gue  
 dulirri.**

Many bad men Immanuel seized. They  
 on his head thorns bound. They indeed a log  
 laid, another  
 log across they laid: they indeed Immanuel  
 laid down; hands  
 they pierced, feet they pierced; on cross fas-  
 tened. They the cross  
 raised, Immanuel on the cross hanging. Soon  
 Immanuel  
 died. Soon after a man with a spear his side  
 pierced; blood flowed.

## 13

**Bullului Ɲarma gir Immanuel taonda wimi,  
 kundawi.  
 Immanuel Ɲūru bābine balūn taonda; yealo  
 malo babine  
 balun taonda; yealo Ɲaragedul Ɲuru babine  
 balun  
 taonda: Ɲaragedul Ɲuruko moron ginyi,  
 warine.**

In evening they verily Immanuel in ground laid, covered.

Immanuel the night lay dead in ground; also one day he lay

dead in ground; also another night he lay dead in ground; next morning alive he became, arose.

**Yerala gūnagullago yanani.**

**Yeladu Immanuel gunagullada ṅuddela: ṅerma**

**kanuṅo ṅummilda, kanuṅo winuṅulda.**

Soon after to heaven he went.

Now Immanuel in heaven dwells; he all sees, all knows.

## 14

**Murruba Immanuel; kamil ṅaragedul murruba**

**yealokwai ṅerma. Yerala Immanuel yealo taongo**

**taiyanille; ṅeane kanuṅo ṅummille. Immanuel kaia**

**goalle; ila kanuṅo balun, giwir, inar, kaiṅal, kanuṅo**

**moron gigi. Immanuel goalle “Minna inda gimobi?**

**Minna inda gimboi? Inda murruba gimobi?**

**Inda**

**ṅununda taiyanuṅa gunagullago. Inda kagil gimobi?**

**Inda biru yanuṅa, urribū yanuṅa.”**

Good is Immanuel; not another is good like him. Hereafter Immanuel again to earth will come; we all shall see. Immanuel aloud

will speak; then all the dead, men, women,  
children, all

alive shall become. Immanuel will say "What  
hast thou done?

What has thou done? thou good hast done?  
Thou

to me come to heaven. Thou evil hast done?  
thou far go, very far go away."

## 15

**Giru ɲinda kagil ginyi; inda warawara  
yanani;**

**giro Baiame yili ginyi. Baiame yalwuɲa  
murruba;**

**ɲeane kanuɲo warawara yanani.  
Winungulla: kamil**

**ɲaia yal goalda; giru ɲaia goalda. Immanuel  
ɲirribatai**

**yarine, gūnagulladi taongo. Kanuɲo giwir  
kagil ginyi:**

**Immanuel ɲandil murruba; Immanuel  
baluni, giwir**

**moron gigigo.**

Truly thou bad hast become; thou astry hast  
gone;

truly God angry is. God always is good;

we all astray have gone. Hearken; not

I lies tell; truth I tell. Immanuel from above

came down, from heaven to earth. All men  
bad are become;

Immanuel only is good; Immanuel died, men  
alive for to be.

## 16

**Yeladu Baiame goalda; “Nindai, kanuḡo giwir, kurria kagil gige, berūdi warraia; ḡeane murru ḡurriḡe. Kamil ḡaia yili gige. Murruba Immanuel baluni.” Yeladu Immanuel goalda: “Taiyanuḡa ḡununda kanuḡo ḡindai iḡgil, ila ḡaia ḡindai tubbia-mulle.”**

Now God saith: “Ye, all men, cease bad to be, turn ye; we will be reconciled. Not I angry am. Good Immanuel died.” Now Immanuel saith: “Come unto me all ye weary, then I you will cause to rest.”

**Inda taiyanuḡa Immanuelgo.**

You come to Immanuel.

## 17

**Giwir ḡuddelona**

**Litraga: bain dinna tuḡḡōr, ḡurribu bain ge bain;**

**kamil yanelina. Paul, Barnaba ellibu, aro yanani. paul**

**goaldone; bairidūl ḡerma wīnūḡailone. Paul kaia**

**ḡummildone, kakuldone, “Waria ḡurriba dinnaga.”**

**tuḡōrdūl parine, yanani ellibu.**

A man dwelt at Lystra; with sick foot diseased, very ill indeed;

not he could walk. Paul, Barnabas also there came. Paul



was speaking; the lame man him was hearing.  
 Paul earnestly  
 looked, he cried aloud "stand upright on feet."  
 The lame man leapt, walked also.

## 18

**Burulabu giwir ŋummi, goe "Ŋipai!"  
 Kākūldone  
 "Baiaime bular yarine yealokwai giwir."  
 Paul, Barnaba  
 ellibu, bunnāŋunne, kakuldone, "Kurria!  
 Kamil ŋeane  
 Baiaime; ŋeane giwir yealokwai ŋindai.  
 Ŋeane guiye  
 murru ŋurriŋillone. Ŋeane murru goalda  
 burulabu;  
 kurria ŋindai yealo kagil gigne: berudi war-  
 raia,  
 ŋummilla Baiaime moron. Baiaime gīr  
 gūnagulla, taon,  
 burul kolle, kanuŋo minnaminnabul gimobi.  
 Baiaime  
 yalwuŋa Baiaime."**

All the people saw, they wondered, they cried  
 aloud

"Gods two are come down like men." Paul,  
 Barnabas

also ran, cried aloud "Have done! not we  
 gods; we men like you. We glad

become, we sorry become, we angry become,  
 again we

are reconciled. We good tell to all;

cease ye any more evil to be; turn ye

look to God the living. God verily heaven,  
earth

the great water, all, everything made. God

always is God (the same ever.”)

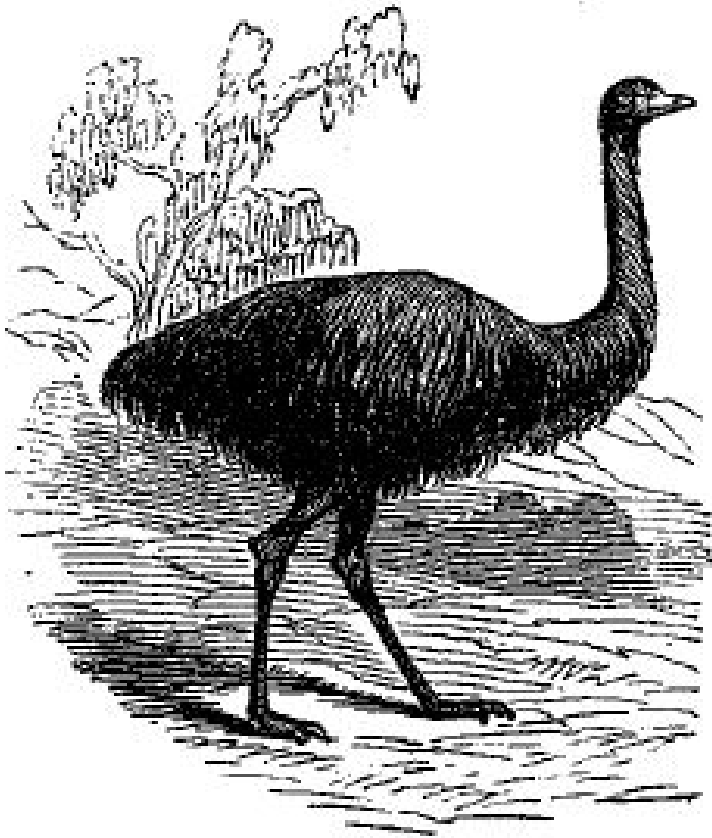
b bundar.



Kangaroo

b bundar.

d dīnoun.



Emu

d dīnoun.

xxi

21

g giwīr.



Man

g giwīr.

i īnar.



Woman

i īnar.

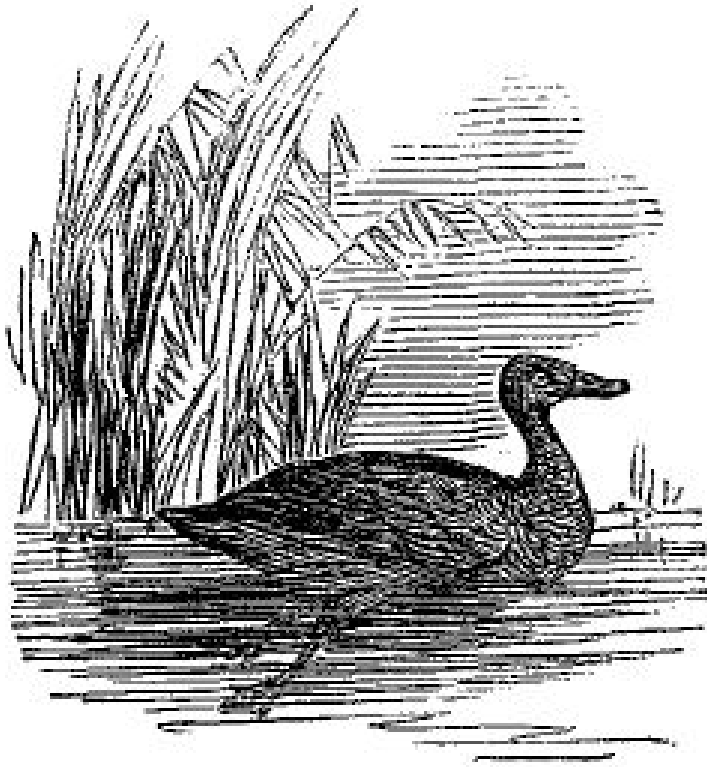
j. jimba.



Sheep  
j jimba.

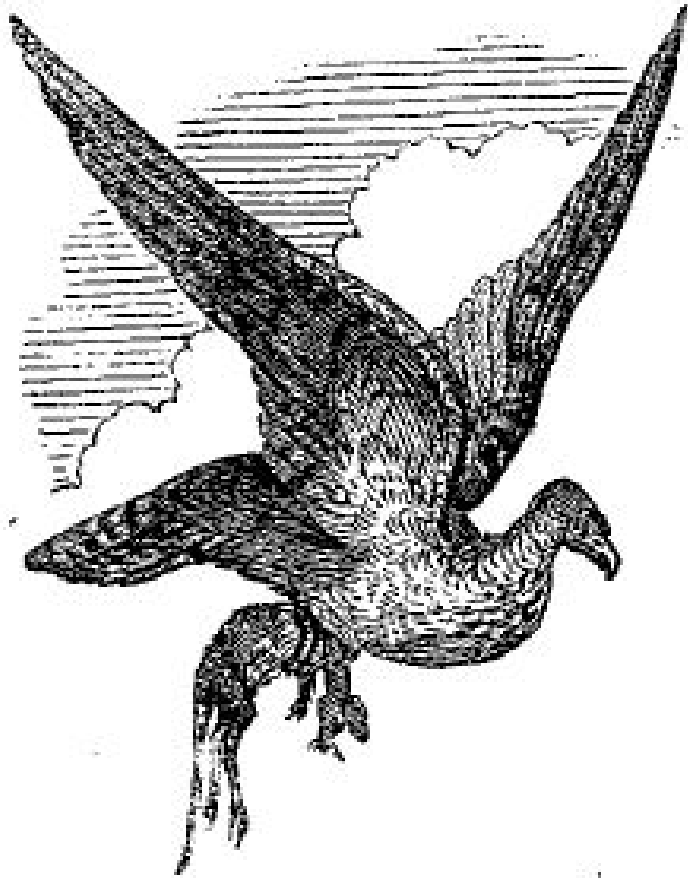


k karāṅi.



Duck  
k karāṅi.

m mullion.



Bird

m mullion.

26

n nūrai.



Snake

n nūrai.

27

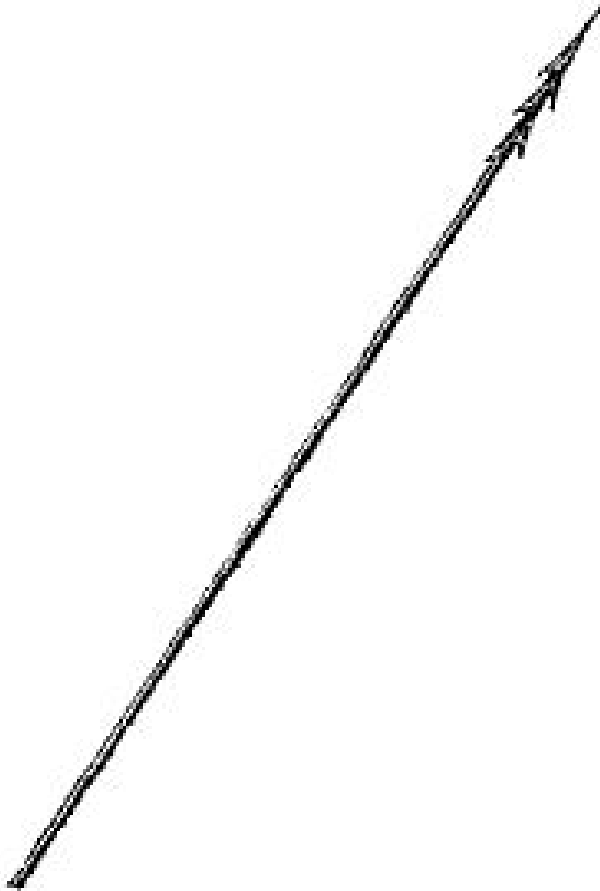
ᠳ ᠳārūmbōn



Pelican

η ηάρῦμνῶν

p pīlar.



Spear

p pīlar.

t tulu.



Tree

t tulu.



xxxiii

30

W wāru.



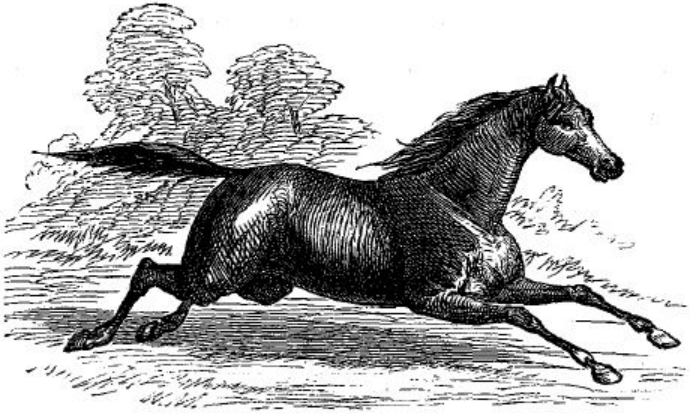
Crow

w wāru.

xxxiv

31

y yaraman.



Horse  
y yaraman.

xxxv

## **GURRE KAMILAROI**

**Story book in the Gamilaraay language of Australia**

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2021-11-23

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