

Tekahionwake,
(MISS E. PAULINE JOHNSON)
THE IROQUOIS INDIAN POET-ENTERTAINER,
*In Native Indian Buckskin Costume, presenting her own poems of Red
Indian Life and Legends, from her own Book*
— THE WHITE WAMPUM. —



THE TIMES,
LONDON, JULY 17TH, 1906.

Miss Pauline Johnson, whose native name is Tekahionwake, is descended from the chiefs of the Iroquois race of American Indians, and comes before the London public as a reciter of the stories and legends of her race. She dresses in native costume, and she has herself written her pieces in clever and effective verse, which, when spoken in the vivid manner, which is characteristic of her, is dramatic and moving. At her entertainment at St. James Hall yesterday, she gave "Opash" and "A Legend of Qu'Appelle," and each in its way was a fine piece of declamation. — As it was in the beginning, — is no less effective, though its mixture of bitterness and tragedy makes it less pleasant. Mr. Walter McRae gave recitations and sketches in the coarse French-Canadian dialect and was successful in all, though perhaps he was at his best in the little poem "Bird a Plouffe."

Mr. Walter McRae, Humorist,
In Selections from Dr. Drummond's "Habitant" Folk Lore Stories of French Canada.
QUAINT, HUMOROUS, AND PATHETIC.
Agents KEITH PROWSE & Co., 107 New Bond Street, London, W., and Branches.



Figure 9. Left: Publicity material from Pauline Johnson’s 1906 London tour. Right: Photograph of Pauline Johnson taken in London 1906. (McCrea 1947)

NMAI 008386.000 from 1906 to Present

After Heye’s purchase and cataloguing of the belt in 1906, there are no MAI-HF inventory records or other records concerning it until it was classified as a “low” item (meaning “not found”) during the inventory of the MAI-HF collection in the 1970s.²² On March 22, 1996, NMAI Acting Registrar Ann Drumheller reported to NMAI’s Curatorial Council that NMAI 008386.000 had been found in the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (UPM) collections and returned to the NMAI. This may be explained by the fact that shortly after Heye purchased the belt, he lent his sizeable personal collection to the UPM (Gordon 1907).²³ After Heye created the

²² In 1938 the MAI-HF compiled an inventory entitled “Wampum Collection (Not Including Strings)” which did not include NMAI 008386.000 (MAI-HF 1938). Another undated MAI-HF document, “Wampum Belts of the Six Nations Confederacy in the Possession of the Heye Foundation” does not list NMAI 008386.000 as part of the MAI-HF collections (MAI-HF n.d.). Martin Sullivan briefly mentions the belt in his 1995 repatriation report entitled “Reviewer’s Report on Request by Grand Council of the Houdenosaunee (Six Nations) for Repatriation of Wampum Belts, Strings, and Beads;” under “Table 2 Unclaimed Six Nations Wampum,” Sullivan (1995) classified the belt as a “League belt” and recommended notifying Grand River that the belt was in NMAI’s possession, but at that time, Sullivan was unaware that the belt was not found during NMAI inventories (personal communication, March 24, 2011).

²³ In 1907 this museum was known as the Free Museum of Science and Art, University of Pennsylvania.