

THE LEGEND OF THE STURT PEA.

Aboriginal folk lore explains the origin of the glorious Sturt Pea which has become the floral emblem of the Broken Hill district, in the following way.

A young and beautiful maiden was promised in "The Dreamtime" to a warrior who made her a cloak of red parrot feathers. From a distance she would follow her lover in the tribal wars, faithfully roaming the trackless wastes to be near him.

Drought years brought famine to the tribe and the young warrior was one who went far afield in search of food.

During his absence the maiden kept lonely vigil, refusing to leave the place of farewell after the tribe had moved on. Their last view of her was of a red cloak surrounding her black head as she knelt in hopeful prayer. Neither she nor her lover were seen again.

