

M270
Thoughts of a foolish one.

Sung by a young woman from Hmao-fao-tu.

Notes.

This song is recorded in Document E (no. 19, page 47).

Line 9. A note in Chinese in the text explains that J^r Jⁿ means “not believe”. The normal Miao word for “believe” is CΛs. The word Jⁿ is the Chinese word “xin” for “believe”. As often happens, the final “n” in the Chinese word disappeared when it was transferred into Miao.

Line 11. The final word of this line in the Miao text is a repetition of the word “to drink”. This is most likely due to a lapse of attention in copying out the song.

Lines 14 and 15. These lines are written as though they were a single long sentence in the Miao manuscript.

Lines 26 and 27. These lines, written as though they were a single sentence in the Miao text, contain two expressions borrowed from Chinese, Tⁿ ǰⁿ and J^s Tⁿ meaning “pray” and “God” respectively. There was no necessity to use Chinese, as Miao has its own perfectly acceptable words, ǰ³ ʌ and C T^u ǰⁿ ɔ^ɔ.