Manoominikewin / \(\text{Manoominikewin}\)  
Nancy Thompson (Peguis, Manitoba)\(^1\)

1 A’ii niwii’-dazhindaan manoominikewin.  
\(\text{Uh. (pause form)} \) I.will.relate.of.it ricing.  

‘Well, I’m going to tell about ricing.’

2 Mewizha e’-gii-manoominikeyaang.  
\(\text{Long. ago} \) (it was).when.we.were.ricing.  

‘It was long ago when we were ricing.’

3 Gaawin wiikaa ningii-ani-izhi-maajii-manoominikesiimin: akawe  
\(\text{Never} \) we.just.started.ricing; first  
e-gii-nanaakodamowaad gichi-anishnaabeg  
\(\text{they.gave.thanks.for.it} \) elder.Indians  
ji-bwaa-maajii-manoominikeng.  
\(\text{before.ricing.was.started.} \)

‘We never just started ricing: always the elders gave thanks before we started ricing.’

4 Akawe niizh gichi-anishnaabeg gii’-bawa’igewag.  
\(\text{First two} \) elder.Indians they.did.harvesting.  

‘First, two elder Indians did the harvesting.’

5 Mii gaa-izhi-ozhitoowaad ’a manoomin.  
\(\text{That’s.it} \) they.thus.made.it that rice.  

\(^1\) Transcribed by R. Valentine; translated by N. Thompson and R. Valentine.
‘And they made rice.’

6 Mii zhigo gaa-izhi-wikwandiaad.
Γ S'd bΔf·Δ·b∩¬d<xC
It’s also they feasted together.

‘And they also feasted together.’

7 Gakina awiya ogii-miijin ‘owe gaa-gii-bwa’amowaad
bPa ∆·Δ bPΓΓ' a bP·<u·<u·<c
Everyone he ate it this that they harvested
ogo gichi-anishnaabeg.
∀d P<ν<a·<v·<x
these the elders.

‘Everyone ate this which these elders had harvested.’

8 Akawe gii-nanaakodamoog.
/tcp·Δ bPa·d<ν·<x
First they gave thanks.

‘First they gave thanks.’

9 Baanimaa mii ‘imaa onji-majajii-manoominikeng bawa’igewaad
<σ·L Γ ∆L bPGL·σ<q b<q<Δ b<q<<c
Later it was there one started ricing when they harvest
ogo bemaadiziwaad minik ‘o manoominikeng
∀d v<ν·<c Γσ·b bΓσ<q b
those who (PL) lived that many this ricing

‘And then later they started ricing there, they harvested, those who lived there, as many as (did ricing), doing the ricing there where they were.’

10 Gaawin wiikaa aapiji gii’-baapaataniinosiwiwag, gii-agaansinowag
b·Δa ·Δ·b ∆L bP<ν<σ·<b·<b bP<ν<σ·<b·<b
Never really they were many in number, they were few
mewizha gaa-gii-manoominikewaad.
'They were never many in number, they were few in number long ago who did ricing.'

11 Zhigo gaye gaa’-doodamowaad ogii’-bimi-naagajitoonaawaa 'iwe
And also what they did they were nurturing (?) that
manoomin e-nitaawigininig.
‘And also they nurtured the rice as it was growing.’

12 Aaniish nising adite manoomin.
Well, three times it ripens the rice.
‘Because the rice ripens three times.’

13 Gaawiin zhemaag gijaaginanzin aabiding bawa’igeyan.
Not right away you exhaust it once if you harvest it.
‘You don’t exhaust it right away once when you harvest it.’

14 Ogii-ayanwebitoonaaawaa ‘owe nitam gaa-nitaawiging,
They gave it a rest this first that it was growing.
notitam gaa-aditeng.
the first time that there was ripening.
‘They gave it a rest this first time that it was growing, the first time that it ripened.’

15 Mii we gaa’-bawa’amowaad.
That’s it when they harvested it.
‘And then they harvested it.’
16 Miinawaa maajii-bawa’igewaad, miinawaa maagizhaa
\[ \Gamma \Delta \rho, \quad \Gamma \Delta \rho, \quad \Gamma \Delta \rho \]
Again they started harvesting, again perhaps

niso-giizhig, niwi-giizhig gii’-bawa’igewag, miinawaa mii
\[ \sigma \rho, \quad \sigma \rho, \quad \rho \]
three.days, four.days they harvested, also it’s

‘And then they started harvesting, again perhaps three days, or four days they harvested, and also they let it rest.’

17 Miinawaa owe gii-adite.
\[ \Gamma \Delta \rho \]
And this INAN it ripened.

‘And it ripened again.’

18 Zhigo ’iwe ishkwaajigaaditeg baanimaa mii ’i
\[ \sigma \mathcal{L}, \quad \Delta \mathcal{L}, \quad \mathcal{L} \mathcal{B}, \quad \mathcal{L} \mathcal{B} \]
And that which ripened last later it’s.then

e-gii-giizhitoowaad.
\[ \nabla \mathcal{P} \mathcal{J} \]
they finished it.

‘And they finished on that which ripened last.’

19 Jiimaanan ogii-aabajitoonaawaan bawa’igewaad.
\[ \Gamma \Lambda, \quad \Delta \mathcal{P} \mathcal{J} \]
Canoes they used them when they harvested.

‘They used canoes when they harvested.’
21 Mitig gigii-aabajitoon bawa’aman ’i manoomin.
\[ 22 \text{A. stick } \text{you. used. it } \text{when. you. harvested. it } \text{that rice.} \]

‘You (sg.) used a stick when you harvested that rice.’

22 Gibiinji-webaganaandaan biinji-jiiimaan.
\[ 22 \text{You. thrash. into. your. boat } \text{inside. the. canoe.} \]

‘You through it into the boat.’

23 Gaawiin wiikaa noonjigo gegoo mitigosh
\[ 23 \text{Never different. kinds. of. it } \text{any. old. stick} \]

ogii-aabajitoosiinaawaa gaawin ogii-bookwanaandaaziinaawaa
\[ 23 \text{they. used. it. } \text{NEG they. didn’t. crack. it} \]

‘They didn’t use any old kind of stick, they didn’t crack the rice.’

24 Weweni ogii-dazhiikaanaawaa bawa’igewaad.
\[ 24 \text{Carefully/gently } \text{they. worked. at. it } \text{when. they. harvested.} \]

‘They worked very carefully when they harvested.’

25 Gaawiin wiin ogii-babaa-boopookwanaandaziinaawaa.
\[ 25 \text{Not they. didn’t. go. around. cracking. it} \]

‘They didn’t just go around cracking (the rice).’
Today when you see it rice, it’s been cracked all over, and fast running motorized boats are used.

‘Today when you see rice, it’s been cracked all over, and fast running boats are used.’

Different things that they do damage the rice.

‘Different things that they do damage the rice.’

Now when they harvested the rice, they worked at it very carefully when they parched it.

‘Now when they harvested the rice, they worked at it very carefully when they parched it.’

They made a fire, and used sheet metal tins when they parched.

‘They made a fire, and used sheet metal tins when they parched.’
30 Ambe ininiwag ogii-bawishkaanaawaa 'i manoomin.

Well people they.trampled.on.it that rice.

‘And then people trampled on the rice.’

31 Oshki-makazinan mewizha gaa-gii-izhinikaadegin

New.shoes long.ago what.they.were.called

bimibatoowakizinan gii-izhinikaadewan gomaa naa
running shoes they.were.called or.else

bashkweginwekizinan ogii-gigishkaanaawaan.
leather.moccasins they.wore.them.

‘They wore new shoes, running shoes or leather moccasins.’

32 Ji-bekakin makizinan ogii-ozhitoonaawaa a’ii

They.had.to.be.clean shoes they.made.them uhh

waanikaanensan ogii-ozhijiishkiiwaginaanaawaan imaa
little.holes they.molded.a.spot there

endazhi-bawishkamowaad ji-bekak ‘i
where.they.were. trampling.it to.it.be.clean that

manoomin.

rice.

‘The shoes had to be clean, and they made little holes, they molded a spot, there
where they were trampling, so that the rice would be clean.’
'And then they fanned it, they used birch bark bowls when they harvested the rice.'

'Twice this rice was trampled, to make it very clean.'

'And when it had been trampled on twice it was fanned, and then it was ready to be cooked.'

'The rice was never black.'

'It always looked like a green leaf.'
Because when you first harvested, right away it was parched.

It wasn’t stored anywhere where it would spoil.

Nowadays the rice they sell is black and moldy, and is stored for a long time and there before it’s finished.

Nowadays it seems that it’s really expensive.

Long ago it was really cheap.
Weweni dash ogii-ozhitoonaawaan, Anishinaabeg

Properly then they made it, the Indians

‘They made it correctly, those Indians who made it.’

Gii’-beakan, aaniish zhemaag gii-ani-gaapizigaade,

It was clean, because right away it was parched,

‘It was clean, because right away it was parched, it was finished right away.’

Gaawin gii-agwaagosinzinoon.

‘It wasn’t moldy.’