

brother, on the other hand, let all his men by, knowing that they would not be able to go very far with nothing in the way of protection for their feet. They all then left the camp. The young man asked his younger brother how many he had killed. He said, "None." It wasn't long when one man came followed by two more. The old fellow asked them, "How many of you are there?" He replied that about fifty were still alive. So the old fellow said, "If you had not taken the women, this would not have happened." The old man then took his hatchet and killed the three. Soon the rest came back. The old man asked if any were missing, and they replied that there were not. He, therefore, upbraided them and slew all but three. After cutting off their ears, he sent them back to their own country to tell their people what had happened. He also cut off a finger from the hand of each.

(40). Story of the Two Malecites Who Went West. How One Was Killed and the Other Married and Escaped.¹

Two Malecites went west on a journey to explore the country of the enemy. They were encamping in a place in this country, when an owl came and lit upon a tree near their camp. After it had alighted, it hooted. This it continued to do for some time.

After a few days one of the Indians took sick and died. After his death the Indians of the strange tribe came to the camp and saying nothing, carried the corpse away. As they were quite numerous, his companion could not object. When they had carried it some distance, they ate it, because game was so scarce, that it seemed as if it were kept away by the spell of some great magician.

In two or three days the owl returned to the camp where the other Indian was still living and did the same thing as on its first appearance. But before this the daughter of the chief had visited the camp and taken quite a fancy to the stranger, for he was very comely. So when the owl returned, she felt a desire to save him, for she knew that it was the owl who had killed his companion. So she secretly went to his camp and told him that it was her uncle, who was a great shaman disguised as an owl, who was

¹ The following story was obtained from James Paul, of St. Mary, in August, 1912.