

pair to escape from the house and hide themselves in the bush. When they fled from the Raven's house they carried with them a large cedar box, in which the sun and the fire-stick were placed. Day after day, and month after month, they wandered southward without proper nourishment, and in great fear of the Raven. They also carried with them the box containing the sun and the fire-stick. One evening, faint and weary, they sat down near a little creek, and the woman, being very hungry, wept bitterly. Her husband walked a little distance up the stream, and at last found a dead land otter, but they could not eat it, as they had no fire with which to cook it. On the following morning they remembered that they had the fire-stick in the box they were carrying. They at once determined to see if they could produce a fire with it. They were successful, and soon had a good fire, with which they cooked the otter. Having made a hearty meal, they proceeded on their way. When they reached Cape Ball they were hungry again, whereupon the youth began to sing one of the songs taught him in heaven, and the sea receded four miles from the shore, leaving a great whale stranded on the beach. The youth surrounded the whale with a circle of stones and rocks so that it should not escape. This circle of boulders is said to exist to-day. The runaway couple lived on whale flesh until they reached the channel which divides Graham and Moresby Islands, where they settled and built a house. On this spot the village of Skidegate afterwards sprang up. Here they lived for several years in peace and prosperity, and a daughter was born to them, which caused them great joy. In course of time the daughter grew to womanhood, and was an exceedingly beautiful woman, and they would have all been perfectly happy but that there was no prospect of a husband for the maiden.

Year after year passed by, and they had given up all hopes of a husband for their daughter, when one day there came from the North Island, around the west coast, the Raven's male-slave, whom he had made on the beach at Sisk. This forlorn creature now desired the parents to give him their daughter to wife. The father indignantly refused his request, and became very angry at what he considered a great piece of impudence on the part of a clam-shell-made man. How could such a being as he look to wed with the daughter of a heaven-born chief! But the slave was not to be so easily repulsed. He betook himself to the woods surrounding the house, and whenever the father was away would go and talk with the mother. She regarded him as her brother, seeing that they had been created together, and told him all her secrets, and even went so far as to tell him where her husband kept the chest containing the sun which he had stolen from the Raven's house at Rose-spit.

This treasure was stored away in a strongly built house in the woods, where the heaven-born man would frequently go to pray to the gods in the Kingdom of Light. The woman was not wise in thus divulging the whereabouts of her husband's precious treasure; for the slave, on asking a second time for the maiden, and receiving a good kicking from her father,¹ went away in great wrath, vowing that he would be revenged. As soon as night fell, having watched the chief retire to rest, he betook

¹ It is interesting to note in this connection that the heaven-born man thought nothing of taking the slave for his wife, but was much incensed at the idea of his daughter becoming the wife of a slave. We see that the same notions prevailed among the Haidas generally, for although a chief could marry any of his female slaves, no slave could marry a free-born woman under pain of death.