

## INFANCY.

As soon as the baby is born into the world, his mother wraps him in half a blanket, and puts him into a hammock, either to sleep or cry as he may wish. He very soon learns to take care of himself, and knows that he must fight his own way through life. Should he become ill he is taken great care of, and the mother nurses him carefully; otherwise, with the exception of nourishing the young one, it is left to go its own way whilst the mother attends to her duties. Very seldom do the Haidas bind their infants on a board, or tie them up into a motionless bundle. They give them their liberty, and leave them to themselves until the feeding time comes round.

## WOMEN.

A girl as soon as she reaches puberty has the lower lip pierced, and this orifice is enlarged from time to time. A piece of whalebone or stone a quarter of an inch long, a quarter of an inch wide, and a sixteenth of an inch thick is inserted in the slit. The size of the stone is increased according to the marriage of the girl, and the number of children she bears, so that it is really a mark of caste. The Haida women have more lip than any others we know of, and to see a crowd of them quarrelling, the lip shaking with anger, is a sight not to be forgotten. The old women are generally at the bottom of all rows, and also act afterwards as peacemakers, looking as innocent as lambs. The women are great diplomats and generally contrive to have their own way, and it is a great mistake to imagine that they are treated as slaves.

## MARRIAGE.

When a man takes a liking for a woman, he goes to her parents and makes overtures by presenting them with blankets amounting to a considerable sum, according to the price that she is valued at. If they consent he makes known his wishes to his desired wife. She then tells her companions, and they come together and assist her to get ready for the occasion. When everything is finished, the man goes to her father's house, and there makes a feast, and during the feast he rises and claims her in the presence of all as his wife. The following day they go to his house, and the bride's father gives biscuits and tea to all there assembled, and then the couple are considered to be married. During the whole time of the negotiations, courtship and marriage, a cannon is fired at intervals of six hours, to let all who are at the neighbouring fishing stations know. As I have before stated, members of the same crest cannot intermarry. The children always take the crest of their mother.