

were to be got. To this the old beaver replied he had a lake full of them, and a river of his own, where every season he got a plentiful supply, but no one knew where they were, and he would take care no one ever should know.

As time passed onward he grew more and more fond of his adopted son, and would take him along with him when he went fishing. After awhile he became a better fisher than the old beaver himself. After this he would stay at home and send the boy alone. For a long time the boy never failed to return nightly, bringing with him a supply of the salmon. All this time the boy was nearing the fulfillment of his long-cherished scheme. Getting together one day a lot of fine salmon, he started on his mission, putting in each river as he passed along a quantity of his fish, until his stock was exhausted. This is how Ne-kilst-luss cheated old Tsing out of his fish for the benefit of mankind, and broke his monopoly.

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#### THE RAVEN'S CONNECTION WITH THE ORIGIN OF MANKIND.

When the raven (Ne-kilst-luss) had this world prepared for the reception of a being who was to be in his own image, part of himself, mankind, he went to seek for that being. Accordingly, as he walked in the shape of a raven one day along Nicoon's well-known point he found lying on the sand a cockle (*Cardium Nuttalli*) and had several connections with it. Returning that way at the end of nine months he found the cockle in the same place. Looking at it he heard a sound like "peep, peep," issuing from it. These noises was the cockle in labor. It gave birth to six beings, of whom he was father. These six partook of both sexes. In order to put them to rights he took the female principle from three, making them males. On the abdomen of the other three he placed six sea snails, or Beches de mere, making them females. Having by these means got the representatives of three families, he told them to have children and replenish the earth, because it was theirs. At first these people were dark-skinned and thickly covered with hair, had long arms and legs, and were unable to walk upright. After many generations, these people, so low in their first estate, by a continued selection of the best and fairest looking, were freed of hair, and became the people of to-day. The people of to-day, though far advanced, have a deal yet to learn, and have a great future before them, because, as descendants of God, they are always progressing and urged onward by a principle of evolution implanted in them by their father and creator.

At first and for many years or ages the land they lived in was always warm and nice, consequently they never were in need of anything wherewith to warm themselves.