

Childhood of Ji-shib'

one, and, raising the door-flap, told Ji-shib' to enter. There in the wigwam was a young Indian girl, and when he spoke to her she answered him, but he could not understand her words. She allowed him to sit down beside her, and he noticed that she was very beautiful. And yet he did not understand what it all meant, he knew only that she was beautiful. The beaver said^d to him: "Thus will you outgrow your boyhood, and grow into manhood."

Gradually the beautiful girl faded away, and Ji-shib' turned to look at the beaver which was sitting up beside him. Slowly the beaver lay flat on the ground, and Ji-shib' awoke, curled up in the hollow tree, looking at the beaver-skin medicine bag lying at his feet. And then he knew surely that the beaver was his Guardian Spirit. It must be the Spirit of little A-mi-kons, for had not A-mi-kons found him at his birth? Had not the beaver's fur wrapped him up during his babyhood? Had not A-mi-kons always been his medicine bag? A-mi-kons, the little beaver, had always kept him, and always would.