

indicated by its carved post as belonging to his totem. The master of it, coming out, in any case protects him from injury, and if he chooses makes a dance in honour of his visitor. Should an Indian be captured as a slave by some warlike expedition, and brought into the village of his captors, any one of his totem must present themselves to his captors and offer to redeem him by means of blankets or other property ; the slave is returned to his tribe, and his relatives pay the redeemer for what he has expended. Refusal is looked on as a disgrace."

In childhood, a transfer can be made from one totem to another. Supposing a chief desires his son to succeed him, and to belong to his own totem, he is transferred to his father's sister to suckle, and is figuratively adopted by her. In this way he acquires the totemship of his father, and at an early age is taken back by his mother to raise. It must be borne in mind that children take ordinarily the mother's totem, unless transferred as above stated. Thus mother-rule or matriarchy prevails. Dr. Dawson remarks that among the Haidas, transfer is often effected to strengthen the totem of the father when its number has become reduced, or there is danger of loss of prestige or extinction. The ties of the totem are considered far stronger than those of blood relationship, and a man cannot marry in his own totem.

If an accurate knowledge of totemism is to be recorded in the history of our aborigines, data should be systematically collected for a complete tabulation of them, and their mutual relations with the various tribes, together with their significance. Generalization from the study of one tribe only is confusing, and a thorough and systematic collection of data at each village alone can give a reliable ground-work for generalizations. Unless this work is undertaken speedily, it will prove incomplete or altogether too late.

A remarkably fine totem, thirty-five feet high and well