

The chief said that his daughter was going to heaven, and that she would be there a month, and that when she came back Mr. Duncan might go on with his work.



KLAHOWIAH, A STICKEEN SQUAW.

After a Sketch by H. W. Elliott.

Mr. Duncan replied that he could not possibly stop his work.

Legiac then asked him to suspend for a fortnight, and when he would not agree to that, requested that he close up for a single day, and at last simply that he would not strike the bell of the schoolhouse when his daughter was coming back. Mr. Duncan refused to compromise even to that extent.

That afternoon about eight or ten of the Indians went to the schoolhouse upon the double-quick, rushed in, drove all the children out, and bade Mr. Duncan get out. Then the one who had killed the man at the fort gate, soon after Mr. Duncan's arrival, stood over him and said: "You leave this house; I have killed many a man, and I will kill you."

Mr. Duncan stood quietly and kept his eye upon him. He seemed to waver. Then another man shouted out: "Cut

his head off and give it to me, and I will kick it on the beach!"

That seemed to encourage him, and, foaming with rage, he dashed at the missionary, raising his hand with a murderous-looking knife. Just as he was approaching, instead of looking his intended victim in the face, his eye glanced past, and Mr. Duncan then thought that he was giving the sign to somebody to stab him from behind. He turned around and saw an Indian standing with a little cape over his shoulder, keeping his eyes fixed upon the man with the knife. Mr. Duncan did not know it at the time, but he afterwards learned that the man with the cape had a pistol, and that he had told the Indians that he would shoot the man who killed the white man. That Indian was the one whom Mr. Duncan had employed to assist him in acquiring the language. Legiac himself afterwards became a Christian and a very zealous preacher.

During the first year of his work at Fort Simpson, Mr. Duncan became convinced that satisfactory results could not be secured under such surroundings, although the effect of his teaching was already to be seen in a change and toning down of the performances of the medicine-men. Two things retarded his progress: first, contact with the white people was demoralizing; second, and worse, it was impossible for the Christian Indians, however much they might desire it, to change their mode of life and adopt the customs of civilization so long as they lived with the heathen bands and were daily subjected to the sight and influence of their ancient customs. "If you desire," says Mr. Duncan, "to train up your child to be a moral, refined, useful man or woman, you look very carefully after his associations in youth, while his habits and character are forming. You would not expect good results from your teaching if after giving him instruction you allowed him to spend