

Isletsant war (suwigaus)
Kuka said
Peace ceremony, 1877

Raid on qalds'. Simon Hamanoot, 1923.

The qalds' people went to their hunting grounds up past 4th Cabin, crossing the river at galantqist and going into the mountains at the other side. One man, gaye's, went with his son to trap groundhog. They were attacked by Isletsant, and after shooting many of them with his bow and arrow, he was killed. suwigaus, brother of the dead man, became alarmed at his failure to return and led a search party to find him. They found many dead Isletsant, and then he saw the bodies of his brother and nephew. They cremated the bodies, as was their custom, and returned in grief to their village.

Isletsant
murder

Suwigaus

Revenge raid
on Isletsant

The men began to bathe, eat devil's club bark, and otherwise train themselves for revenge on the Isletsant. For a whole year they trained. Then a large war party set out from qalds'. They eventually reached the summit of a mountain, and looking down, saw smoke in the valley, the smoke of many fires. They took off their heavy moose-hide armour and stationed themselves [the armour?] along the hillside, keeping very still, to look like rocks. Down below, the Isletsant saw something on the mountain and after some argument decided it was only boulders.

Just before dawn, suwigaus led the attack on the Isletsant camp. He clubbed the occupants of 6 huts before the rest were aroused, any who tried to escape were killed

by other warriors who had surrounded the camp. The only Detant survivors were small children, and these were forced to lead the invaders to the main village. There was a large village of semi-subterranean houses. [There were no houses. They lived underground. The smoke came from out of the ground.] The invaders could not get at them.

The war party killed and skinned ~~some~~ ^a greagly bears, made ~~the skins~~ ^{the skins} into armour by means of ^{layers} of pitch and sand, then secured a man ^{into the cave} ~~and sent them~~ to imitate the bear. The "bear" walked close to the Detant camp and they shot arrows at it, with no effect. Then the galds' warriors hid near the camp, the greagly noticed the Detant out of their holes and drew them into the ambush. The Detant men were surrounded and killed. The galds' entered the underground house and took the women and children as captives. They were surprised to find that the the food of the Detant had consisted of ground squirrels (dze'l, x).

The party set out to return to galds'. The Detant children could not eat dried flesh, it sickened them. They had to make rabbits for food. Later, the Detant children escaped, and returned to their own country, the Atchikem country.

Atchikem
country

Detant raid attacked galds'. It was a large village but the invaders killed all but a few. How it was thought the fighting would stop.

head from the
house

The people of the house, thinking that galdos
was still a large village, prepared to
attack it. They already had flint-lock guns.
As they crept up on the village, two young
men in one of the houses heard them and
fled, leaving their musk 1733 and
the musk entered the house of 1733 and
shot him. The other people of the village were
so terrified by the noise that they didn't dare
look on to see what had caused it. One
house laughed, "We are like Haska,
we can scare the people." He seized a
child under each arm and walked into
another house, followed by two other
men, 1733, a galdos, Throat his
spat right through the man who held
the children, and another galdos ~~with~~
gained a musk man to the wall. A
third musk entered with a gun and shot
the galdos' man. The musk began to
pack the house, and found the
younger brother of 1733 in hiding. He
changed a great knife and had about
staying the musk man. In all, seven
musk were killed and six wounded.
Three galdos' men were killed.

Before they left, the musk set
fire to the village. "That is the reason
galdos" is now so deserted". The musk
had not come to stay in that village
any longer. Some came to Houghton and
others to Kipyoko.

galdos' almost
deserted

After that war, the musk people went
in invitation to Kipyoko to come and make

peace. All the Kinyagan, Kinyagan and
git'anma's people went down to
git'axda'maks for the peace feast and
dance. The two people then write down
on their quills and they promised not to
make war any more. That was not very
long ago, William Jackson was 14 at the
time, and is about 60 now. [Thayer, 1877].