

Chittenden, N.H.

1884 Explorations of the O.C.I.

HR  
F5849  
A3C4

p20 (Stories) ... which I had from the lips of Edensaw, the oldest and ranking Chief of the Hyda nation - - -

p20 The Creation of Man

"When the water which once covered the whole earth subsided, a savior (Ne-ki-d-stles) was the only creature surviving. In his loneliness he started around the islands, seeking companionship, and when passing Sand Spit Point heard very faint voices from a cockle shell lying upon the beach. While examining it with great wonder, the voices grew louder and louder, until finally there issued therefrom several male infant children, which rapidly increasing in stature joined him in a common search for mates. Upon reaching the lonely island of Kinstinte they found females plunging desperately to the rocks, whom securing and taking for their wives, peopled the land."

p22 ... Tadence, with its six small houses - still occupied by hunters and fishermen during the summer - and one lonely covered pole.

p26 Mayasod - dumped on her sept

p57 Masut "The house of Chief Weake is fifty-five feet square, containing timbers of immense size, and planks three feet and one-half in width and eighteen inches thick.

--- This is the abode of the aristocracy of Hyda land -

Chittenden  
myself from  
AEE

of Head Camp Edencaw, and of Weeah, Stalta, Kenschilac, Kiltalouia, Spencer and Cootay, minor chieftains who have but little now remaining except their titles, of which they are very proud.

Chief Edencaw and most of his people were away at North Island and other points hunting fur seal, their most profitable pursuit. (Dunbar)

p 59 Bought 30 ft canoe for \$51. He, Maynard, and Thomas who -- "knew the coast very thoroughly as far south as Skidgate. -- (going via Rose Spit)

p 61 In the course of our travels thus far we had found, in addition to several abandoned fishing huts and houses [Hollow?] with carved poles in front, what appeared to be the remains of an earth and stone work foundation. It occupied an elevated situation about a mile from the sea shore, and consisted of an excavation about 100 feet square, surrounded by an embankment of earth and stones, which could hardly have been made except by human hands."

Skidgate orkney brings people from all parts of islands.

p. 62 I refitted at Skidgate, hiring a stronger canoe and two Hydah Indians, known as Sam and Tom, who, together, were well acquainted with the principal waters to be traversed. -- (south)

p 63 Found Chief Skidgate's salmon traps at Copper Bay stream  
" Chief Skidance en route to a small stream [Church Cr.]

Visited Cumshewa, Skidance, Lackell or Tanoo, and Neactute, all occupied, and several others now abandoned.

Invited to sleep in their houses at Tanoo and Neactute

Back to Skidgate.

p68. A Visit With Chief NIN-GING-WASH

Kun-gung-wash, the ranking chief of Skidgate, is about 65 years old. . . . . a few years ago he gave away his second wife - growing old - and sued for the daughter of SCOTSGI, the leading chieftain of the West Coast. (she is 26)

Note - Kun-gung-wash  
Kawen in 1852 (same)

They lived in a frame house in center of village  
p69 Visited their old house, still in good repair, a few rods distant. 14 copper poles of various sizes, formerly valued at from 50 to 500 dollars each, leaned against the broad front. The curved pole is so tall that, when erected, Kun-gung-wash received his present name, which signifies "the long stick."

It is reported that he took his young wife to Victoria, and repurchased his establishment from her earnings.

Chief Skidgate was found at Copper Bay. He is a cousin of Kun-gung-wash, younger in appearance, though nearly as old. They quarrelled bitterly over their rank for a long time, N G W by means of more liberal potlatches finally prevailing. - - -

Shaman  
N.B.

p70 Doctor Modette - talkative - sold some charms  
Hair (Gold Harbor)

Lambling (Lahal with one whale tooth)

p72 Returned to Marslet in "Princess Louise".

"I had just taken possession of the quarters kindly assigned me by Mr. Alexander McKenzie of the Hudson Bay Company, when we received a visit from Edensaw,

72  
p73 oldest and ranking chief of the Hydah nation, who had erected the largest number of carved poles, given the greatest feasts, and made the most frequent and liberal potlatches. Though about seventy-five years of age, he is still quite vigorous, and being well dressed in a suit of broad cloth, would easily pass for a much younger man. He is the last of a race of powerful chiefs, his ancestors having been bold and aggressive warriors, making many captive slaves from the other coast tribes. He is also a distinguished brave, but never fought with his own people, and has always been friendly to the whites. On one occasion he risked his own life to release the captain and crew of a small vessel, the "Susan Sturgess", which had been made captive by the Indians of Massett. He has succeeded one after another of the chiefs of the various parts of the group by virtue of the erection of carved poles to their memory, bountiful feasts and generous potlatches to their people, until he is now recognized as their greatest chief."

NB.

-- (on SW part of Massett Inlet) Chief Edensaw told me that in former times the Indians to the south with whom the Hydahs were at war, sometimes crossed over these mountains from the end of Kio-kath-li Inlet on the west coast, and taking their people by surprise, carried away captive their fairest young women.

75 Kung (deceased) stayed in one of the three habitable houses.

-- the old village of Yat2

Two Indian dogs were the sole occupants of the fishing and hunting village of Tadense -- They had been left behind by slatter hunters.

p. 76

at Yakkh, found 'carvings of male figures complete':

Nyda Villages p 22-

7 inhabited, 15 deserted.

Kah-oh	6 houses	10 poles	} both ruins. S. sh. Larry Passage
Ki-soo-ta	15 h.	18 p.	
Tadense	6 small h.	1 p.	S. end. North Is. opp Lucy Is. seasonally occ.
Gatze	3 h.	1 p.	just east of Klackwun pt. <sup>Camping place</sup> <del>uninhab.</del>
Kung	15 h.	20 p.	w. shore, ent. Raden Hbr deserted.
Yan	20 h.	25 h.	w side ent. Massett Inlet abandoned
Massett. Utte-was	50 houses (p. 57) 40 occ. h.	50 poles	350 p 57 occupied - principal village
Ka-Yang	+ ruins of ancient lodges a few	a few	1 m. below Massett in ruins
_____	ruins	ruins	mouth of Nielsen "formerly a considerable village"
Ne-koon	_____	_____	"A still larger one is said to have stood at the base of Rose Spit point, ... and another between this point and C. Ball the remains of which may still be seen. p 23.
Skedigate	30 h.	55 p.	(100 people p. 61)
Gold Harbour	13	18	Mand Is. 108 people. set. "a few years ago"
Cumshewa	18	25	60 people
Skedance	25	30	12 people

Seav's of Lashreek 20 h. 25 carved poles 150 natives "It is second in population to Massett.

Ninintints 20 h. 25 carved poles 30 inhabs.  
20 burial columns.

"There is only one more Kyda village to the southward, Ninintints, with 30 inhabitants, 20 houses, 25 carved poles, and 20 burial columns, occupying a rock-bound islet lying off the  
- - - p. 24.

There are five other villages on the west coast of the islands, all abandoned, and most of them in ruins

Tasso	Tasso Hbr
Gold Harbour	between Gold Hbr & Skidegate Channel
Chathl	
Lenma-how	on Graham Island, opp. Westo Island.
Trahn	Trahn Cove, between Stowe Hbr and Frederick Is.
Susk	on Graham, opp the latter (Frederick?)

There are, besides these villages named, numerous houses and temporary lodges, from one to seven in a place, situated at the mouths of the principal salmon streams, near potato gardens, and convenient to choice hunting and fishing grounds: p. 24

Remnants: Halibut banks.

" On the day of our arrival at Remnants, the Indians returned with a large number [of halibut] caught upon banks opposite the central portion of the western shore of Provoost Island."  
p. 36 (Kunghet Is).

Musset p. 57.

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History:

Percy 1774

La Perouse 1786

Sixon 1787 named C 51 &

Ibbetson's Sound, now H. S Channel

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