

INDIAN STORIES FROM QUILEUTE.

Uncorrected

No. 1.

Quileute Day School,

La Push, Wash., Mar. 10, 1908.

Mr. Reagan.

Dear Teacher: I am now taking liberty and pleasure in forwarding you these few lines of old story. My folks used to tell us lots of old stories about the people that died many, many years ago. They also tell us about the big steamships, that were wrecked many, many years ago. They said the steamers brought much stuff when it was wrecked. Some of the things are at the beach now.

The vessels were all made of steel. I think the things at the beach now is for the engine.

You can go to the beach, when it is very low tide; you can see the things lying on the beach. They said there was lots of gold pieces lying on the beach at that time.

The Indian boys used to play with the gold on the beach: the boys rolled the round gold pieces on the beach.

The white men got the money, when the boys were playing, and hid it. The Indians did not know any thing about the gold, also they did not know what gold was good for.

They did not know about the sacks of flour that were on the vessel; they just threw the flour away and just got the sacks, and used the sacks to put the salmon eggs in.

There were lots of things on this ship that the Indians did not know any thing about.

The Indians used to live at James Island, some of them at the river, where they could hunt elk. My father says he was a great elk hunter, also his father. They say he was hunting elk a great deal when he was a boy. He said he

never saw a man hunting with his bow and arrow. He says he was not born yet when the Indians were hunting with bow and arrows. He says he just heard about it. I am coming to the end to say good bye. I must close. I am,

Your scholar,

JAMES WARD.

No. 2.

Quileute Day School,

La Push, Wash., Mar. 10, 1908.

Dear Teacher: Last few years ago I listened to a man who was talking about what the Indians were doing in the long ago.

The Indians lived on James Island at that time. Once the Makah Indians landed in, or near, the mouth of the Quileute River. The Quileute Indians did not see the Makah Indians when they landed. One Quileute Indian went walking along the beach; he saw a whole lot of Makah Indians on the other side of the mouth of the Quileute River. The man went back to James Island to tell the Indians to get ready to fight with the Makahs, and the Makahs, seeing that our people knew that they were there, went back home. But in the night, they came back; they landed on the south side of James island.

The Quileute Indians thought that the Makahs had gone home. The Makah Indians hid themselves in the woods. That morning the Quileute fishermen went out fishing, two or three men in each canoe. The fishermen went far out in the ocean, they were without spears or anything to fight with, because they did not know that the Makah Indians went after the fisherman to fight them.

The Makah Indians killed nearly all of the fisherman. I think only two or three canoes were saved.

The men who were saved came over to the shore and told the Indians at James Island, that the crews had been all killed by the Makah Indians. The Indians then went up the river to hide themselves.

Yours,

JOHNSON BLACK.

Age 15 years.