5.A Legend of the Northland (Beehive)

The poem ‘A Legend of the Northland’ is a legend about an old lady who angered Saint Peter because of her greed.

One day, Saint Peter preaching around the world ; reached the door of a cottage where this woman lived. She was making cakes and baking them on hearth. St peter was fainting with hunger. He asked the lady to give him a piece of cake. The cake that she was baking then appeared to be too big, so she did not give him that and instead, she baked another smaller one. That also appeared to be big so she did not give him that also. The second time she baked yet another smaller cake but found it too big to give away. In the third attempt, she took an extremely little scrap of dough and rolled flat. She had it as thin as a wafer but was unable to part with that also. This angered St. Peter. He said that she was not fit to live in human form and enjoy food and warmth. He cursed her and transformed her into a woodpecker bird who had to bore in hard, dry wood to get its scanty food. She can be seen in the trees all day boring and boring for food.