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# THE ARCHÆOLOGY OF THE SOUTHERN INTERIOR OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

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## I. INTRODUCTION.

GEOGRAPHY, ARCHÆOLOGICAL SITES, AND RESOURCES EMPLOYED BY  
THE PREHISTORIC PEOPLE.

Our present knowledge of the archæology of the southern interior of British Columbia is largely based upon the work of two institutions: the Canadian Geological Survey and the American Museum of Natural History. The work of the former was conducted by Dr. George M. Dawson, who investigated the large burial-ground on the sand terrace, between the Fraser and Thompson Rivers, near Lytton, while engaged in geological work in southern British Columbia, during the years 1877 and 1888-90. The results are recorded in "Notes on the Shuswap People of British Columbia" in the Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada, Section II., 1891. The collections made by Dr. Dawson are in the Museum of the Geological Survey of Canada at Ottawa.

The work of the American Museum of Natural History, I conducted as a party of the Jesup North Pacific Expedition, which was sent out from the museum to investigate the anthropology of the north Pacific Coasts of America and Asia. Investigations were conducted during the years 1897 and 1898 as described in *Science* for April 14, 1899, and during 1899 as outlined in *The American Anthropologist* for July-September, 1900. The results, from which this paper is an extract, are published in detail with illustrations in Parts III. and VI. of Volume II. of the Memoirs of the museum, and the collections are preserved in the same institution.

The explorations were conducted at Spences Bridge and Kamloops in June, and at Lytton in July, 1897. In May 1898 and May 1899 these sites were revisited. In October 1899 an exploring trip was made from Spences Bridge, near the mouth of the Nicola River, to Nicola Lake. On this trip Mr. James Teit was of the party. The chiefs of all the Indian bands of the region rendered valuable assistance in carrying on the work.

Dieck, the botanist, collected some stone carvings from the region below Lytton. These are now in the Royal Ethnographical Museum at Berlin. Various individuals throughout British Columbia and the west possess cabinet specimens from the region, and in the Provincial Museum at Victoria, B. C., is a collection. These are the results of casual visits to the burial places near Lytton and Kamloops.