

nwp
970.8
B662vo

Vocabulary of the Kwakiutl Language.

By Dr. Franz Boas.

(Read before the American Philosophical Society, November 18, 1892.)

The Kwakiutl language is spoken on the coast of British Columbia, from Cape Mudge to Douglas and Gardner Channels, excluding Dean Inlet and Bentinck Arm, which are occupied by the Bilqula. The language forms a branch of the Wakashan stock, being affiliated with the Nootka or Aht of the west coast of Vancouver Island. The form of these languages reminds us in many respects of that of the Salishan stock, and it may be that a connection exists between both.

The Kwakiutl language is spoken in three dialects. The Kwakiutl proper, the Hëiltsuk' and the Gylt'amā't. The first is spoken by the tribes of Vancouver Island and of the coast southeast of Rivers Inlet; the second by the tribes inhabiting the coast between Rivers Inlet and Gardner Channel; the last in Gardner and Douglas Channels. It will be found that phonetics and vocabulary of the northern and southern tribes are much alike, while the middle dialect stands more apart. This is probably due to the admixture of Bilqula elements in the central region.

The vocabularies contained in the following pages were collected by the author in 1886, 1888, 1889, 1890. As slight differences are found between the vocabularies of the various tribes, the tribe from which the words were collected are given. The following abbreviations have been used:

L. for Lē'kwiltok',	}	Kwakiutl Dialect.
N.—Nimkish,		
K.—Kwakiutl,		
TI.—Tlatlasik'oola,		
A.—Awī'ky'ōnoq.	}	Hëiltsuk' Dialect.
H.—Hë'iltsuk',		
G.—Gylt'amā't,		

The literature of this language is very scanty. The following writings are of importance:

W. FRASER TOLMIE and GEORGE M. DAWSON, *Comparative Vocabularies of the Indian Tribes of British Columbia*. Montreal, 1884.

G. M. DAWSON, *Vocabulary in Trans. Royal Soc. of Canada*, 1887, ii.

A. HALL, *A Grammar of the Kwakiutl Language*, *Trans. Royal Soc. of Canada*, 1888, ii, pp. 59-105.

F. BOAS, "Grammatical Notes on the Kwakiutl Language," in the "Sixth Report of the Committee on the Northwestern Tribes of Canada," *Proc. British Association for the Advancement of Science*, 1890.