

sion work among them, but each was obliged to abandon them as hopeless"* until lately, when a representative of the Church of England persisted in staying with them in spite of the little encouragement he received. And, then, look at the "distinguished success" Mr. Duncan had "in founding his mission of Metlakahtla"[†], and yet those enlightened and devout Tsimp-sians' fundamental law is mother-right, will argue another.

I am not blind to the force of the objections, and will concede at once that the Kwakiutl were never noted for their religious propensities. But can they be quite truthfully represented as possessing purely paternal institutions? Let Dr. Boas answer for me:

"The tribes speaking the Heiltsuk and Gyimano-itq [two Kwakiutl] dialects are in the maternal stage and are divided into gentes having animal totems", he writes in the Sixth Report on the North-Western Tribes of Canada[‡], adding that "the southern groups are in the paternal stage and are divided into gentes which have no animal crest".

And even of the latter he writes further on§ that "the social organization of the Kwakiutl is very difficult to understand.... [Among them] the child does not belong by birth to the gens of his father or mother", which is somewhat different from what we observe among the Sékanais and the Kootenays.

As to the Tsimp-sians' boasted civilization and regard for morality, I am not free to write all I know about them. They are, no doubt, more industrious than the interior Indians whom they disdainfully dub "stick siwashes". Are they more progressive? By no means. The latter have, to become thorough Christians and to imitate the whites, made the sacrifice of nearly all their social institutions and customs, their gentes, totems, labrets, heredity through the female line, tamanwas or doctoring, etc., while even the Metlakahtla Tsimp-sians have retained their clans, their "nobles" and practically all such essential points of their social organization which did not conflict too overtly with

* Sixth Rep on the N. W. tribes of Canada, p. 6.

† Ibid., *ibid.*

‡ Ibid. p. 52.

§ P. 56-57.