

On the North-Western Tribes of Canada.—Ninth Report of the Committee, consisting of Dr. E. B. TYLOR, Mr. G. H. BLOXAM, Dr. G. M. DAWSON, Mr. R. G. HALIBURTON, and Mr. H. HALE.

THE Committee were appointed, as in former years, to investigate the physical characters, languages, and industrial and social condition of the North-Western Tribes of the Dominion of Canada.

In consideration of the difficulties and delays in completing their work of Canadian exploration and editing its results the Committee have been reappointed for this year, without a grant of money. They are thus enabled to send in the following report, by Dr. Franz Boas, on the 'Tribes of the Lower Fraser River,' in continuation of his previous communications. This, however, does not exhaust the anthropological information in course of being obtained and put in order by the Committee, who hope to bring their investigations to a close during the present year, and to report finally to the Meeting of the Association in 1895.

The Indian Tribes of the Lower Fraser River. By Dr. FRANZ BOAS. X

In the sixth report of the Committee I described the customs of the Lku'ngén, the most southern group of the Coast Salish living on British territory. The northern neighbours of the Lku'ngén, who will be described in the following pages, speak the K'auêtcin (Cowichan) language. This dialect of the Coast Salish is spoken on Vancouver Island from Saanitch Inlet to Nonoos, on the islands north of Saanitch Peninsula and on the Lower Fraser River as far as Yale. The language as spoken on Vancouver Island and on the mainland shows slight dialectic differences, the most striking ones being the general substitution of *l* for *n*, and of *ä* for *ä*, on Fraser River. I have given elsewhere some notes on the tribes of Cowichan River and of Nanaimo which belong to this group.¹ Therefore I confine myself in the following pages to remarks on the tribes of the mainland, whom I studied in the summer of 1890.

The Cowichan of the mainland are divided into fourteen tribes, each forming a village community. The inhabitants of each village are believed to be the descendants of one mythical personage. I give here a list of tribes, their villages, and the names of the mythical ancestors.

Tribe.	Villages.	Ancestor.
1. qmE'çkoyim.	Mä'lë, on North Arm of Fraser River.	Pä'pk'eltel (flag).
2. K'oa'antel.	Stcuwä'çel, near South Arm of Fraser River. Tcë'tstles, at New Westminster.	K al'e'tsemes (badger).
3. K'ë'ëtsë.	Sëltsä's, at head of Pitt Lake, summer village. Cuwä'leçet, at lower end of Pitt Lake, winter village.	Tsatä'selten.
4. Mä'çqui.	Mä'mak'ume, above Langley, on left bank. Kökoäe'uk, on Sumass Lake.	Sk'elë'yitl (beaver).
5. Lëk'ä'mel. (Nëk'ä'men).	Lä'qau, summer village. Skuyä'm, winter village.	Iälëpk'ë'lem (sturgeon).
6. Tc'ilëquë'uk.	Ts'uwä'lë, Që'lës (on upper part of Chillu- wak River).	T'ë'qulätca.

¹ *American Anthropologist*, 1889, p. 321; 'Zur Ethnologie von Britisch-Columbien,' Petermann's *Mittheilungen*, 1887, No. 5; *Verhandlungen der Berliner Gesellschaft für Anthropologie, Ethnologie und Urgeschichte*, 1891, p. 628.