

TLINKIT OR KALOSHIAN, AND HAIDA.

The investigations for the census in 1880, in southeastern Alaska, were committed to Mr. Miletich of Sitka, who deputized the Rev. S. Hall Young and some of the other missionaries to obtain the number and distribution of the native inhabitants.⁶

This work done by men of education and intelligence, whose interests would all be in the direction of accuracy, has given us a valuable and the first reliable indication of the geographical distribution of the smaller groups of the Tlinkit within our territory. Whether these groups are entitled to rank as tribes, or whether they do not rather correspond to clans or to purely geographical divisions, subordinate to those indicated in 1877 I am as yet unable to determine. Doubtless the work which Dr. Krause is understood to have in hand will give us praiseworthy and final data upon the subject. The most interesting result of the census work was the extension of the range of the Haida to the northern end of Prince of Wales Island. In this we have a new fact properly authenticated, and for which we are grateful.

Several books have been published by the missionaries on their life in Alaska, most of which do not contain much of value to the ethnologist; with greater knowledge and experience we may hope for something more satisfying.

The most important contributions to our knowledge of the people and culture of this part of Alaska since 1875, is due to the labors of Drs. Arthur and Aurel Krause which are too well known for me to need to specify them in detail.

Mr. J. G. Swan, of Washington Territory, has made extensive and valuable collections for the National Museum both from southeastern Alaska and the region south and east of it in British Columbia.

Dr. Friedrich Müller has devoted much study to the Tlinkit language and has published observations on their verb. Dr. A. Pfizmaier has pursued investigations in the same direction; both of these rest their work chiefly on the classical study of the Kaloshians by Veniaminoff. But it is impracticable in an address of this sort to attempt too close an investigation or record of details.

⁶ This has not been stated by the compiler of the final census report, who, nevertheless, if I am correctly informed, was entirely dependent upon these sources for all that is new and valuable in regard to southeastern Alaska, embodied in the said report.