

continent and Vancouver Island, to which they still occasionally resort. Their own name is Nūkh'lum-mi. The Skagits call them Nūkh-lésh, and some of the other tribes Há-lum-mi. Their dialectic affinities are rather with the Sannitch of the south-eastern end of Vancouver Island than with any of the Indians of the main land, and the two probably at one period formed a single tribe, which more remotely was connected with the Clallams and Songhus. The Simiahmoo (Si-mi-á-mu), a small remnant, living on the bay of that name, north of them, belong likewise to this group. On the south the Lummi adjoin the Samish and other bands of the Skagits, who in language approach the Nisquallies.

Like the Clallam, their language abounds with the nasal *ng*, both as a prefix and a termination. It has another peculiarity, in great measure its own, in the broad sound of the letter *a*, somewhat as in the words *mass*, *pass*, but even more prolonged. I have distinguished this in the vocabulary by the italic. The letters *f*, *r*, *v*, *z*, are wanting in both languages.

The Clallam and Lummi, as will be observed, contain three classes of cardinals, which I have distinguished as *simple*, *personal*, and of *valuation*, although these terms are not strictly accurate; certain objects, besides men, being counted by the second, and others, as well as money, by the third; I have never fully ascertained the distinctions which govern their use. The words *animate* and *inanimate* do not apply; those of *noble* and *ignoble*, by which the French Missionaries designated the names of objects in the Algonquin languages, probably indicate the idea. Mr. Gallatin, in his "Notes on the Semi-Civilized Nations of Mexico," &c.,* mentions the same peculiarity as existing in the Mexican and Maya, in the former of which there are three different terminations suffixed to the simple numbers, according to the objects denoted. A similar distinction is found in the Makak language, and traces of it, at

* Trans. Am. Eth. Soc., vol. i, p. 54.