

As material is lacking for comparisons in certain directions, which naturally suggest themselves, viz., with the Shoshonian tribes of the region to the south, as regards language, and with these, and with certain Salishan peoples, with respect to physical characteristics, these questions must be deferred for consideration at another time. It may be stated, however, that from the examination of his material (only partially arranged) there appears to be no reason to displace the Kootenay from its position as a distinct family of speech.

I. ETHNOGRAPHICAL.

COUNTRY AND PEOPLE.

The *Ki'tōnā'qa*, or Kootenays, inhabit the country included between the Rockies and the Selkirks, stretching from the forty-ninth to the fifty-second parallel of north latitude, and watered by the Upper Kootenay and Upper Columbia Rivers and their tributaries. They preserve, however, a distinct recollection of having formerly lived east of the Rocky Mountains. The ethnic and tribal names are as follows:—

An Indian is called *āqkts'mā'kinik*,¹ and a Kootenay Indian, *tšen āqkts'mā'kinik*, i.e., 'the Indian.' The names possibly have reference to the origin of the Kootenays, according to their legend, from a hole in the ground, as the latter part of the word '*mā'kinik*' may be explained as consisting of *āmāk* (ground), -i-, a connective vowel, and the suffix -*nik*, signifying 'people originating from, dwelling at, &c.' The Kootenay also call themselves *Ki'tōnā'qa*, the etymology of which is unknown. One Indian connected it with *hō'tōnā'qenē*, 'I am lean.' They are generally divided into two groups, viz., Upper Kootenays and Lower Kootenays, the subdivisions of these being as follows:—

I. *Ki'tōnā'qa*, or Upper Kootenay: (a) *Aqk'isk'enū'kinik* (i.e., 'people of the two lakes'), the tribe of the Columbia lakes, with chief settlement at Windermere, on the Lower Lake; (b) *Aqk'ā'mnik* (i.e., 'the people of A'qk'ām,' as the region of Ft. Steele is called), the tribe of Ft. Steele and the Mission of St. Eugene, of whom a large number camp at a place called Bummer's Flat, Yākikāts; (c) *Yā'k'ēt āqkinū'qtlē'ēt āqkts'mā'kinik*, or Indians of the Tobacco Plains (*Yā'k'ēt āqkinū'qtlē'ēt*); these are better and more properly termed *Aqk'āneqū'nik* (i.e., 'Indians on a creek or river'); (d) *Aqkiyē'nik* ('people of the leggings'?), Indians of Lake Pend d'Oreille.

II. *Aqkōqtlā'tlqō*, or Indians of the Lower Kootenay (*Aqkōktlā'hātli*) River, partly in British Columbia and partly in Idaho.

The number of the Kootenay Indians is uncertain; they are generally set down at 1,000, half of whom are in British Columbia, the other half in the United States. The reports of the Canadian Indian Department from 1880 to 1886 give the number as about 400. Mr. A. S. Farwell, in a special report to the Legislature of British Columbia² in 1883, makes the following statement:—'The Kootenay tribe of Indians number about 800 men, women, and children, and are divided approximately as follows: 450 British Indians domiciled north of the international boundary line, and 200 American Indians residing in Idaho and Montana Territories;

¹ For the alphabet used in this report see pp. 45, 46.

² For a copy of this the writer is indebted to the kindness of the Hon. John Robson, Provincial Secretary