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QUEEN CHARLOTTE ISLANDS.

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APPENDIX B.

VOCABULARY OF THE HAIDA INDIANS

OF THE

QUEEN CHARLOTTE ISLANDS.

The following vocabulary, though by no means complete, may serve to represent the Haida language for purposes of linguistic comparison. Most of the words were obtained by myself from intelligent natives, often through the medium of the Chinook jargon, aided by drawings or explanations, and in some cases by a slight knowledge of English in my informant. While generally correct, it may therefore in some cases be in error, and in occasional instances phrases or short sentences seem pretty obviously to have been given in place of single words. It is also to be observed that the Masset and Skidegate dialects are not so diverse as they might appear to be on a slight examination of the lists, for while in most cases the same word has been obtained in each locality, but with some degree of modification, not infrequently a different word with the same or similar meaning has been substituted, though that set down in the other dialect may also be well understood. It may further be remarked that the syllable *tl* or *hl* prefixed to many words, probably in most cases represents the article, but where I have not been sure of this I have hesitated to remove it. The words, before being written down, were invariably repeated by myself till I succeeded in pronouncing them to the satisfaction of my instructor.

The indefinite character of the pronunciation of an unwritten language is so marked, in most of those with which I have had to do, that in the absence of personal familiarity with the language, the use of a complete and highly elaborated system of orthography is in practice almost impossible. I have therefore employed, with little alteration, that suggested in No. 160 of the Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, entitled *Instructions for Research relative to the Ethnology*

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