

American Folk-lore,' for July-September 1890.¹ It will be sufficient to say here that the words in question, when used by any islanders (and sometimes by coast tribes) in a myth ascribing a celestial or an underground origin to their ancestors, are found to have meant originally 'from the windward' and 'from the leeward.' When used by inland tribes they have usually signified, in the first instance, 'down-stream' and 'up-stream.' Thus the Iroquois have two traditions of their origin, the one purely historical and the other merely mythical—the latter derived from the former by a perversion of the sense of these terms. The former describes their ancestors as ascending the St. Lawrence River in canoes from the neighbourhood of Quebec to the southern coast of Lake Ontario, at or near Oswego. The mythical legend makes them literally 'come from below' by finding their way through an opening which led upward from a subterranean abode beneath a mountain near Oswego. So the curiously combined tradition and myth of the Kootenays inform us that, in their opinion, their ancestors formerly dwelt in some locality east of the Rocky Mountains, and had arrived at that locality by an earlier ascent, doubtless up the Saskatchewan River. That they had been steadily forced westward by their persistent enemies and supplanters, the warlike Algonkians of the powerful Blackfoot confederacy, seems clear from the concurring traditions of both parties.

Report on the Kootenay Indians of South-eastern British Columbia.

By Dr. A. F. CHAMBERLAIN.

INTRODUCTORY.

The present report contains a summary of the results of the investigations of the writer on behalf of the British Association for the Advancement of Science during the summer of 1891 in South-eastern British Columbia. The Indians visited were the various tribes of the *Ki'tonā'qa*, or Kootenays, about whom comparatively little was previously known. They were studied in regard to physical characteristics, sociology, folklore, and language.

The investigations were conducted under all the difficulties incidental to scientific research in a new country, and the writer takes this opportunity of thanking Mr. Michael Philipps, the Indian agent, and his good friends in the Kootenay district who did all in their power to make his sojourn pleasant and to advance the objects of his visit. Particularly does he desire to express to the Hon. R. L. T. Galbraith, ex-M.P.P., of Fort Steele, his gratitude for the many courtesies shown him, and for the hearty manner in which he endorsed and encouraged the writer in his movements amongst the Indians; to Father Coccole and the Sisters of the Mission of St. Engène he returns thanks for their hospitality and the willingness with which they used their influence with the Indians on behalf of science. To Mr. David McLaughlin, of Idaho, his thanks are also due for turning to good use, in favour of the writer, the great influence which he possesses over the Lower Kootenay Indians, and for useful information concerning these aborigines.²

¹ *'Above and Below': a Mythological Disease of Language.* By H. Hale.

² To Dr. Franz Boas, of Clark University, Worcester, Mass., the writer desires to acknowledge his indebtedness for much kind advice, and to express his appreciation of his courtesy in placing at his disposal, during the preparation of this report, his manuscript vocabulary of the Upper Kootenay language.

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