SKETCH OF THE KWAKIUTL LANGUAGE

BOAS].

ā'l^s Em yū'X^s widexs g ā'xaē the wind just began to blow when he came. (ā'l^s Em lately, yu'X^s wid to begin to blow, g āx to come.)

Other verbal nouns are -k^u, a passive participle and noun; as g'îlō'īîk^u a thing stolen; -anEm obtained by, as g'îlō'īanEm obtained by stealing (from g'îlō'La to steal); -ayu instrument, as dō'gwayu trolling-line (from dō'kwa to troll); -Em instrument, as k'iLE'm net (from k'iLa' to fish with net); -ēnox^u nomen actoris, as g'itlē'nox^u wood-worker (from g'ita' to do work in wood); and many others.

The suffix -ayu *instrument* sometimes expresses a passive, particularly of intransitive verbs: $q\bar{a}'s^s$ idayu *he was the means of walking*, i. e., he was walked away with by somebody.

There are also a considerable number of suffixes which transform nouns into verbs. The possessive verb is used so frequently that it gives the language a peculiar character. It is formed by suffixing ad to the stem of the noun, which loses all its suffixes. SENE'm wife has the stem SEg- and, therefore, the Kwakiutl form SEg'a'd having a wife. nEXusk i'n a berry has the stem nEX- and, therefore, nEwa'd having berries.

To eat a certain object is expressed by the reduplicated stem of the noun; from nEXusk'i'n *berry*, nEXna'X^u. This derivative, however, is exceedingly irregular. $-\overline{oL}$ to obtain, $-\overline{sila}$ to take care of, $-\overline{g}$ 'ila to make, are examples of other derivatives.

Among the categories expressed by grammatical processes we have to mention those of plurality and diminution. The plural seems to have been originally a distributive. It is expressed by reduplication, as bEgwā'nEm pl. bē'bEgwanEm man, g $\bar{o}k^u$ pl. g $\bar{g} \bar{o}'k^u$ house. There is a decided preference for the use of the long \bar{e} in the reduplicated syllable. All substantives designating human beings have plural forms, while many other words have no reduplicated plural. Words with local suffixes form their plural with the suffix -Em, which probably has a collective meaning, designating a group of individuals: g \hat{i}' g \hat{i} and \hat{i} g \hat{i} and \hat{i} a vowel in the reduplicated syllable, softened terminal consonant, and the