

"the real white men," a name also applied by a few Indians to French-speaking people.

DIVISIONS OF THE TRIBE. — Their territory may be divided into two parts; the dividing-line being near Lytton, at the junction of Thompson and Fraser Rivers. Here the latter enters a deep cañon, through which it rushes with impetuous force, until it emerges at Yale, some fifty-seven miles farther down, having cut its way through the Coast Range. The country on either side is extremely rugged. Towering mountains, which reach beyond the snow-line, extend on every hand. The valleys are very deep and narrow, often merely gorges. The rainfall is abundant, especially in the southwestern part of this district, and therefore the whole country is clad with heavy timber, mostly fir and cedar. As might be expected, agricultural and pasture land is scarce; game is also rather scarce: so that the Indians depend mainly on the products of the streams for their livelihood. The winters are short, but there are occasionally heavy falls of snow. Such is the country of the Lower Thompson Indians.

The country north and east of Lytton, and immediately east of the Coast Range, is of a totally different character. Although it is rugged and hilly, the contours of the mountains are round, and their slopes gentle. They are intersected by numerous deep and narrow valleys, while still farther east rolling hills or plateaus prevail.

The valleys and lower parts of the country are covered with sagebrush, grease-wood, etc.,—evidences of a dry climate; while the higher grounds and mountain-tops are covered with grass and scattering timber, mostly pine. The conditions are favorable for stock-raising, and patches of arable land are found. Game, especially deer, is much more abundant here than in the lower section, and there is much greater facility for engaging in agricultural pursuits. The climate is extremely dry, with hot summers and moderately cold winters, the latter generally short and accompanied by slight snowfalls.

The country below Lytton is named Uta'mqt (meaning "below," or "to the south"), while that above Lytton is called Nku'kūma (meaning "above," or "to the north"). By adding "-mux" ("people") to the previously mentioned names, we have the designations by which the inhabitants of the two sections are known; viz., Uta'mqtamux ("people below") and Nku'kūmamux ("people above"). The former name especially is often used without the "-mux." These two divisions are the "Lower Thompsons" or "Cañon Indians" and "Upper Thompsons" of the whites, by which terms I shall designate them.

The Lower Thompson Indians have their villages at favorable spots along the banks of Fraser River, from a little below the village of Si'ska in the north, to a few miles below Spuzzum in the south. Their hunting-grounds extend westward to Harrison Lake and the mountains east of the lower course of Lillooet River, southward to the head waters of Nooksack and Skagit Rivers, and eastward to the head waters of Tulameen and Coldwater Rivers. Along this line they come into contact with the Lower Lillooet; the Coast Salish, whose villages and