

region. Campbell again states that the Indians met by him on the Pelly were "Knife Indians," and I think there can be very little doubt that the true name of this tribe is Es-pā-to-ti-na, formed by the combination of the word Es-pā-zah (meaning knife in the neighbouring Kaska language) and ti-na. This is again evidently the same with the name rendered to me as Spo-to-ti-na by a trader in Cassiar and said by him, to be a Kaska name for the tribe to the north of their country.

From the Indians above mentioned as having been met with at the site of Fort Selkirk, who were travelling with miners, the following information was obtained:—

Tribes below
Fort Selkirk.

A tribe or band named Klo-a-tsul-tshik' (-otin?) range from Rink Rapid and its vicinity on the Lewes to the head of the east branch of White River, where they go at the salmon-fishing season. These people probably also range down the river as far as the mouth of the Lewes, or further. They are the Gens des Bois or Wood Indians of the fur-traders. It will be observed that their name does not terminate in the usual way, but of this no explanation could be obtained.*

The To-tshik-o-tin are said to live about the mouth of Stewart River, and to extend up the Stewart as far as the Beaver River, meeting there the Es-pā-to-ti-na to whom they are or were hostile. They are no doubt the Tutchone-kutchin of Dall's map.

Near the mouth of Forty-mile Creek are the Tsit-o-klin-otin and a short distance below this point on the river, so I was informed, is a tribe named Ka-tshik-o-tin. These were said to be followed by the Ai-yan', below which come the O-til'-tin, the last tribe occupying the vicinity of the mouth of the Porcupine and extending some way up that river.

It was further stated that the people of the above mentioned tribes, with others, making seven in all, were collectively classed as Ai-yan'. This agrees sufficiently closely with the name Ai-ya'-na, given to me as a general name of Indians beyond those of the Pelly River by those found at the mouth of the Dease.

Number.

According to Schwatka the entire number of Indians along the main river from the mouth of the Lewes to the Porcupine is about 250. I can make nothing, however, of the local names given by him, with respect to which indeed he appears to have been himself in doubt.

The Indians inhabiting the whole basin of Peel River, were said, by my informants at Fort Selkirk, to be named Sa-to-tin. A tribe named

* Mr. Campbell informs me that in his time while a very few families of the "Knife Indians" inhabited the region of the Upper Pelly, the Indians were very numerous and divided into bands, under chiefs, along the river from Fort Selkirk to Fort Yukon. The "Wood Indians" numbered several hundreds. Below them on the river were the "Ayonais" as well as other tribes, of which Mr. Campbell was unable to learn the names.