

In bringing my paper to a close I would like to point out that it is premature, in my opinion, at this stage of our investigations, to attempt to say to which of the Oceanic groups the Columbian stocks under consideration belong. I believe it would be wholly misleading to jump to the conclusion that because the Columbian terms approximate more nearly to the speech of the mixed races of Oceania, rather than to that of the pure Polynesians, they have, therefore, sprung from these. The probability is all the other way. In colour the Kwakiutl-Nootka-Salish correspond very closely to the Polynesians. I have seen members of the Squamish tribe whom I could with difficulty distinguish from some of the Samoans who returned from the Chicago fair this way, and camped at the Squamish village here. There is nothing in the appearance of our Salish tribes here, generally speaking, to make their kinship with the Polynesians an improbability as far as colour goes. I have seen dark-hued faces among the inland Salish, but, as a rule, they are lighter than the Italians who sometimes co-habit with them. And the anatomical data given by Wallace agrees substantially with that of the coast Indians given by Dr. Boas. I see, rather, in this approach to similar forms among the *extra*-Polynesians and Columbians the result of similar influences at work in their respective tongues than a direct relationship. There is no doubt that the divergence in the speech of the extra-Polynesian groups is due to the fact that the Polynesian words and language have been imposed upon their own. The greater prevalence of consonantal forms is undoubtedly due to this. The Fijian dialects, for example, display just the same characteristics as do those of the Kwakiutl or Salish, though perhaps in a less degree. We know for certain that the cause here was due to a mixture of two Oceanic races speaking different tongues. I have already pointed out that the same cause has been at work in the Kwakiutl-Nootka and Salish. There is also another cause of divergence from the vocalic forms of Polynesian here in British Columbia. Our climate is exceedingly moist, our atmosphere very humid. Rain, fogs and damp are prevalent on the coast for a large portion of each year. These conditions could not fail to affect the soft vocalic character of a language like the Polynesian. The "throaty" quality, the harsh guttural sounds of our coast languages are mainly due to this cause. Farther south, and even in the interior within a couple of hundred miles of the coast, where these conditions do not prevail, we find the language much softer and more labial. The difference between the coast and interior Salish is enormous. I have known the interior people to mimic and laugh at the speech of the coast, which to them is barbarous. When these adverse influences and the principles of change in the languages themselves, which I pointed out in the earlier part of this paper, are taken into consideration, it is truly marvellous that so many correspondences remain. Were it not that amid all the mutations which languages