

NWP  
970.62  
D7189

57

G. A. Newcombe C. F. Ni

GAMES OF THE MAKAH INDIANS OF NEAH BAY. 69

our American scholarship and our financial part in promoting the work of the Fund. The papyri, mostly from the Fayum, include classical, municipal, business, religious, and even New Testament manuscripts; but the particular papyri designated for Yale, Columbia, Harvard, and so on will have to be announced later on. The collection of antiquities just sent to Yale and the University of Pennsylvania are particularly interesting.

GAMES OF THE MAKAH INDIANS OF NEAH BAY.

BY GEORGE A. DORSEY.

While on a collecting trip in behalf of the Department of Anthropology of the Field Columbian Museum during the summer of 1900, it was my good fortune to pay a visit to the Makah Indians of Neah Bay. While on the way to Neah Bay, by steamer from Seattle, I met by chance a Makah Indian, Charlie Williams, bound homeward. From Williams, who is an unusually bright and intelligent Indian, I endeavored to secure such information as he possessed regarding games of the Makahs.

While the more common games of the Makahs are well known, and while good descriptions of them, with their method of playing exist, yet the information which I derived from Williams was in certain ways so complete and the list of games so exhaustive that it seemed to me a description of the games would not be without interest. Furthermore, owing to the very peculiar position of the Makahs, dwelling on the seashore and spending so much of their time on the water, many of the games which have been derived from inland sources have, as played by them, undergone peculiar and very interesting modifications. Of the games of which I learned from Williams, sixteen specimen sets were collected from the village itself, representing seven distinct games.

**DUTAXCHALAS.** - This game is played by young men, generally in the spring, or it may be played at any time of the year. The ring (*dutapl*) is of cedar bark tightly and carefully braided. Two specimens were collected, one of which has seen considerable usage. In playing the game, two converging lines of from six to ten men on each side are formed. The man at the apex of the converging lines takes the ring in his hand and rolls it forward between the lines as far as he can; as the ring begins to lose its momentum, and wobbles preparatory to falling, all shoot at it with an arrow (*tsik'wati*) from an ordinary bow (*bis-tati*). When the ring is struck by an arrow of one side or the other (*qulah* winner), the losing side pay over an arrow as forfeit. The game ends at any time by mutual consent, or when one side or the other has won all the arrows of the opposing side.

Archives  
of  
Field Columbian  
NEWCOMBE  
COLLECTION