JOURNAL

OF

THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

ART. VII.—*The Languages of the Caucasus.* By R. N. CUST,
Esq., Hon. Secretary R.A.S.

THERE are two or three corners in the world's surface, in which a strange collection of diverse languages is found, the survivals of extinct races, once great and strong. The Central Provinces of India, the refuge of the Kolarian aboriginal tribes; the hills and valleys of Abyssinia, in which remnants of Hamitic, or even Pre-Hamitic, races, pushed aside by the advent of the powerful Semites, are still found: the plateau of Tibet, and the Eastern slopes of that plateau: all these three are instances of the phenomena, which I describe: but none is so noticeable as the Range of the Caucasus, one of the dividing lines of Europe and Asia. As after a great hunt animals of all descriptions and sizes take refuge in some secure copse, or some unapproachable mountain, so, when the great Procession of the Indo-European or Aryan, races from their primeval home on the Hindu Kúsh commenced, all the Pre-Aryan races, which were not destroyed, were pushed aside. In the West of Europe there is one solitary survival, the Basque in the Pyrenees: on the extreme East of Europe we find a cluster of languages in the Caucasus, which are neither Aryan, nor Semitic, nor Altaic.

These mysterious languages of the Caucasus have long had an exaggerated reputation. Herodotus (Book I. 203) remarks, that many and various are the tribes, by which the Caucasus is inhabited, most of them living entirely on the wild fruits of the forest: Strabo informs us (Book XI. 5), that no less than seventy Dialects were spoken in the country, which even then was called the Mountain of Lan-

guages. Pliny the Elder (Book VI. cap. 5, 12) quotes Timosthenes, a contemporary of Ptolemy Philadelphus, to the effect, that Dioscurias, on the shores of the Black Sea, was once a famous city, though then deserted, so much so, that three hundred Nations, all of different languages, were in the habit of resorting to it, and in later times there were one hundred and thirty interpreters for the purpose of transacting business. Old legends had attached themselves to the Caucasus in the mind of the Greeks, for Jason came to the River Phasis, now the Riou, and fetched away the golden fleece from Colchis, now Kutais, and the immortal myth of Prometheus is connected with this range. In the minds of the Persians the Koh-i-Káf was believed to surround the world: the Mountain is still called Kafkas in the adjoining Provinces. The soldiers of Alexander the Great on their march Eastwards called the Paropamisus by the name of Caucasus, to which the epithet Indicus was subsequently attached, which survives in the modern name of Hindu-Kúsh. The Caucasus was the Northern boundary of the Persian Empire, and, though Mithridates was able to make his way along the coast of the Black Sea to the Sea of Azof, as a fact the Roman Eagles never crossed the Caucasus. The three Provinces of Colchis, Iberia and Albania, were the limits of Roman knowledge and influence, with the exception of some shadowy notion of the Suani, and of the existence of the Caucasæ Pylæ, now the Pass of Dariel, leading through the Mountains to the unknown Sarmatia. The River, that drains the Pass Southwards, is called by Strabo in the Augustan age Aragus, and still preserves the name of Aragwa.

The Caucasus proved an insurmountable barrier against conquering Nations advancing from the South, and a serious obstacle to those, which came from the North. For a long period Russia held the Province of Trans-Caucasia, accessible by the Caspian and Black Seas, without having established her domination over the tribes of the Caucasus. At length however, after the close of the Crimean War, the Emperor Alexander II. effected the entire subjugation of the Range. The Circassians were expatriated on the West, and Schamyl

conquered on the East, and the Province of the Caucasus established as a Government under the Grand-Duke Michael, divided into Cis-Caucasia, North of the Range, and Trans-Caucasia on the South, stretching from Sea to Sea, the Southern boundary marching with the Turkish and Persian Kingdoms, but liable to in the past, and susceptible of in the future, constant change. The population of this vast Province amounts to five millions four hundred thousand, which, when brought into contrast with a similar area in British India, appears scant: the Revenue is very inconsiderable, but the Province is important, not only as a basis of invasion of Turkey, Persia, and Trans-Caspia, but of British India also. Moreover, the population is so mixed, and various, split up into such irreconcilable strata of Race, Language, and Religion, that all idea of rebellion, or a struggle for independence, is improbable. More than one Million out of the five are actually Russians. My object is to pass under review the ethnic and linguistic features of the Asiatic portion of the population of the whole Province, for it is impossible to treat the Mountain Range by itself, the population of which is estimated at about one million.

Shut up in their inaccessible Mountains, the tribes had evaded all possibility of inquiry into their language before the Russian Conquest. Some few Vocabularies had been picked up from the mouths of stray members of a clan. But the Russians are very active and apt in the work of Surveys and Ethnographic inquiry: indeed sometimes they anticipate an intended conquest by preparing a Grammar of the language of the tribe. The Afghans must have felt that some one was walking over their grave, when Prof. Dorn in 1840 published his Pushtu Grammar at St. Petersburg. As regards the languages of the Caucasus, in books of such esteem on the general subject of Philology, as those of Max Müller, Whitney, and Hovelacque, there was nothing. In his "*Asia Polyglotta*" Klaproth had given a few Vocabularies, and some specimens in his "*Kaukasische Sprachen.*" Julg in his "*Litteratur der Grammatiken*" 1847 had referred to all the books available at the time. Max Müller in his

"Languages of the Seat of War in the East," 1855, had brought together much valuable information. Latham in his "Elements of Comparative Philology," 1862, summed up all that was known at that period, unfortunately giving no references to the authorities quoted, without which a volume of facts collected at second hand is valueless. Berger in the Report of the Third Oriental Congress at St. Petersburg, 1876, gives a full ethnographic description of the Caucasus, but in the Russian language.

When I visited St. Petersburg for the Third Oriental Congress in 1876, I made the acquaintance of Berger, who occupied the post of Chief of the Archæological Commission of the Caucasian Province: he was good enough on a large Map to point out to me the locality of the tribes speaking different languages, and to indicate to me the important contributions to the Memoirs of the Imperial Academy of Sciences at St. Petersburg by Professor Schiefner, based upon the local investigations of Baron von Uslar. This threw a new light on the subject, as all previous accounts had been entirely devoid of the geographical element. In 1878 I was fortunate enough to meet Schiefner himself at the Fourth Oriental Congress at Florence, and he promised to send me a brief sketch of our present knowledge of the Languages of the Caucasus: it reached me next year in the German language: I had it translated and published in the Annual Report of the Philological Society 1879, but before the Report appeared, Schiefner passed away, so I was only just in time to get the desired information. In the meantime another great authority, Fredk. Müller of Vienna, had made use of Schiefner's and Uslar's published works, and in his *Allgemeine Ethnographie* (1st edition 1873, 2nd edition 1879) had made a valuable contribution to our knowledge. Not being quite satisfied from the Geographical point of view, I had written to Mr. Morrison, Agent to the British and Foreign Bible Society at Tiflis, asking him to get from the Russian Authorities full Geographical and Statistical information of the population of the Region. In 1881 he sent me the Ethnological Map of the Province in which every tribe

was marked by distinct colouring, with Statistics showing the number of the population of each : this latter was translated and published by me in the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* (Vol. XIII. p. 353, 1881). As I could not even then reconcile some of the Ethnological Divisions with the Linguistic materials, I thought it best in the autumn of 1883 to go myself to Trans-Caucasia, traverse the whole Region, and visit the Imperial Topographical Office at Tiflis, where I experienced that remarkable kindness and sympathy, which is so freely given in Russia to strangers, and generally so coldly denied in England. Mr. Morrison and I went carefully over the large sheet-Maps then purchased, and the Ethnological Map, both in Tiflis, and subsequently in London, and arrived at certain conclusions. It will be admitted therefore that the results now stated are the outcome of peculiarly favourable opportunities, and local inquiry. As a rule Anglo-Indians, who are familiar with the administration of newly-conquered Districts, may be trusted to stick closely to facts, and to eschew all pet theories and delusive inductions. I have treated the Province of the Caucasus with the same rigour of inquiry, with which I treated in years gone by the Panjáb.

On my road back from Trans-Caucasia, Fredk. Müller presented me at Vienna with a copy of the third volume of his *Grundriss der Sprachwissenschaft* (1884), which he had been good enough to dedicate to me. In this he passes under review each of the peculiar languages of the Caucasus in an exhaustive Grammatical Note. In the ninth edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica* all the Geographical and Ethnographical information available in 1876 is brought together under the words Caucasus, Circassia and Georgia. In Petermann's *Mittheilungen*, 1860, is a paper by Berger "Die Berg Volker der Kaukasus."

The method, which I adopt, consists of two rules.

A. That no language is to be admitted, unless the locality of the tribe, who use it, can be indicated on a Map, not prepared for the purpose, but independently by competent authorities for strictly geographical purposes.

B. That no language is to be admitted, unless some sufficient evidence, vouched for at first hand, such as a Vocabulary, Grammar, or Text, or the personal knowledge of the reporter, can be produced.

Attached to my report now made is a Sketch Map, on which the names of the tribes are indicated, and a Bibliographical Statement, setting out the names of the books, from which the information is gathered. It is obvious, that certain names of tribes are mentioned, regarding which the full information is not supplied. Such names are excluded from the list of languages. Time will show whether they use any of the languages, which are entered, or whether upon maturer information new languages will have to be added.

With a view of carrying out an exhaustive process, all the languages spoken in the Province of the Caucasus are entered, whether they are members of well-known families, or belong to the peculiar group called the Caucasian Group, with regard to which Fredk. Müller remarks (*Alg. Ethn.* 1879, p. 26 note): "It is doubtful, whether this Group can be traced back to one common source. It is probable that the languages spoken to the North of the Caucasus are quite distinct from those spoken to the South, and that in the Northern Sub-Group there are languages with totally distinct germs from each other."

I omit the German, French, Italian, and even Russian languages, though there are many denizens, and even settled colonies of some of these nationalities of a modern date: but they lie outside this inquiry. I commence from the Southern boundary of the Province and proceed Northward. There is a strange admixture of race and language, and the attempt to show the different features on the Ethnological Map is a very difficult one, and as regards the population of the chief towns, it is impossible. The great conquering, and commercial, races are hopelessly intermixed. Of Jews there are none, as the Armenians do the dirty work: other Nationalities such as, Greek, Pole, Bohemian, Romanian, are sparsely represented.

I. Persian	Iranian Branch of Aryan Family		
II. Kurd		do.	
III. Armenian		do.	
IV. Ossete		do.	
V. Turkí	Altaic Family		
VI. Georgian	Caucasian Group.	Southern Sub-Group.	
VII. Abkhás	do.	Northern Sub-Group (West)	
VIII. Tsherkess	do.	do.	
IX. Awár	do.	do.	(East)
X. Hurkan	do.	do.	
XI. Kasikúmuk	do.	do.	
XII. Tabasseran	do.	do.	
XIII. Kurin	do.	do.	
XIV. Artshi	do.	do.	
XV. Ude	do.	do.	
XVI. Tshetshen	do.	do.	(North)
XVII. Tush	do.	do.	

I shall describe each separately : of some languages there are several Dialects ; of others there are several synonyms : others are spoken by clans or tribes bearing tribal names. It is probable that the more powerful Iranian, or Altaic, Languages may have swallowed up in the struggle of life scores of smaller languages, as they will no doubt swallow up some of the small ones recorded above : yet these seventeen names represent all that remains of the seventy of Strabo, and the three hundred of Pliny.

I. Persian. A few words are sufficient for this celebrated language. As Trans-Caucasia was until 1826 part of the Persian kingdom, it is natural to find, that the use of the language has outlived the political domination : besides there exists a considerable commerce betwixt the two countries. The pure Persian-speaking population amounts to 8000. It is interesting to find amidst the settled population of the Province two Persian Colonies, speaking distinctive Persian Dialects : (1) Talish, the Dialect of a small District with a population of 43,000 round a town of that name, and the better known Caspian Sea Port of Lenkoran ; this Dialect

has the character of being an ancient one, differing in forms, and words from modern Persian. (2) Tati, spoken in the District of Bakú on the Caspian Sea, and the Peninsula of Aspheron, with a population of 81,000 : it is supposed by some to be only a modern patois, corrupted by Turki, but according to Beresine its name carries the appearance of antiquity, for in the celebrated Tablets of Behistún the word "Thatiya" occurs repeatedly preceding the name of Darius, meaning "Darius spake." This hypothesis seems doubtful.¹ All the Persians are Mahometan, but Shiah, and hostile to the Turks, who are Súni.

II. Kurd. Forty-four thousand of this Nation have crossed the frontier and settled in the Southern portions of Trans-Caucasia. They are all Mahometan.

III. Armenian. Nearly three-quarters of a million of this industrious and respectable community are subjects of Russia, and occupy a large but broken area in Trans-Caucasia, especially in the towns. They speak a different Dialect from that used by their co-religionists in Asiatic Turkey. They are all Christians, and the whole Bible has been lately translated into their Dialect, and published by the British and Foreign Bible Society.

IV. Ossete, called also Iron. This is one of the Languages spoken within the Range of the Caucasus, but, as it belongs to the Iranian Branch of the Aryan Family, its description follows the other members of that Branch. The tribe numbers one hundred and eleven thousand : they occupy a compact territory in the very centre of the range, and it is traversed by the high road through the Dariel Pass that leads from Tiflis to Vladikafkas. Some of these are Mahometan ; the greater part are Christian, retaining many Pagan customs ; they hold the upper valley of the River Terek, as well as the Mountain tract to the West as far as the head waters of the Ardou, and the Mamisson Pass. The evidence of their language is quite decisive as to their origin.

¹ See J.R.A.S. (o.s.) Vol. XI. p. 176, and Williams's Sanskrit Dictionary, p. 985. S. "sâns," G. "sâgen," E. "say." We have no proof whether the word is "Tati," as written by the Russians, or "Thati."

R.N. Cust, J.R.A.S. N. S. Vol. XVII. 1885.

Stanford's Geogr. Estab.

V. Turkí. Of this important Nationality the Russian statistics give the following details :

I. Osmánli	700
II. Azerbijáni	976,000
III. Karachai.	20,000
IV. Kabarda	14,000
V. Kumik	78,000
VI. Noga	10,000
VII. Kirghíz	11,000
VIII. Jaghatai.	77,000
IX. Kalmuk	11,000
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	1,197,700
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One million and one hundred and ninety-seven thousand seven hundred. Of these the Azerbijáni are the most important, and spread over the greater part of Trans-Caucasia, and they are homogeneous with the population of the Persian adjoining Province of Tebriz to such an extent, that a translation of the Bible is now passing through the Press at the expense of the British and Foreign Bible Society, which will be intelligible to both. Allusion was made at the Third Oriental Congress at St. Petersburg in 1876, by Berger, to the importance of this language, and to the fact, that it had never been studied. Last year at Tiflis I made particular inquiries of the scholar Amirkhanians, employed in this translation of the Bible, and found that the only notice of this Language was in a Grammar of the Turkish Language in the Russian Language by Kasim Beg, translated into German by Zenker. Of the other varieties of the Turkí Language (excepting of course the Osmánli) we know little. The Kumik occupy the low lands betwixt the Caspian Sea and the Eastern slopes of the Caucasus, and the Gospel of St. Matthew is in course of translation for their use. The New Testament has been translated into Kirghíz, and the Gospel of St. Matthew into Jaghatai or Trans-Caspian Turki. Of some of the rest we have scant Vocabularies. A scientific detail

of the different varieties of the important Turkí Language is greatly to be desired. The Turkí tribes poured in from the North in historic times, causing great displacement of Aryan and Pre-Aryan Languages, and now that the whole of the scattered portions of the tribe are gradually coming under the firm rule of the Russians, their importance will be greatly increased. They are all Mahometan, of the Súni sect.

VI. Georgian. We now arrive at the first of the Languages specially identified with the Caucasus, and belonging to none of the great Language-Families of Asia. Fredk. Müller divides the Group (for they have no pretence to such affinity among each other, as would justify the use of the word "Family") into a Southern and Northern Sub-Group, and the Georgian with its Dialects composes the Southern Sub-Group. The Statistical account states the following facts:

I. Grusian	340,000
II. Imeritian and Gurian	380,000
III. Tushin, Phsav, and Chevsur ..	20,000
IV. Mingrelian	198,000
V. Suanian	12,000
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	950,000

The origin of the name Georgian is presumably the Persian word "Gurj." The third Subdivision is unimportant: Tiflis, the Capital of the Russian Province, is the chief town of Grusia, Kutais of Imeritia, and Poti of Mingrelia. Suania is a small Mountainous District difficult of access. They are all sometimes called the Kartalinian tribes, from their speaking a language called by themselves Kartli. The Grusians, or Georgians proper, inhabit the basin of the River Kúr East of the Suram water-shed, and spread up the valley of the Aragwa to the very foot of the main range, and occupy the valley of Kakhetia. The Imeritians occupy the valley of the River Riou or Phasis, West of the Suram Range. They are separated from the Mingrelians by the River Zenesquali. The Mingrelians extend to the Black Sea. The Gurians are

a small Sub-tribe to the South of the Mingrelians, and beyond these are the Lazians, who were known by that name in the time of Strabo, and have lately been annexed to Russia. The Suanians are mentioned by Strabo and Pliny. All these Sub-tribes speak dialects, more or less distinct, of the common language, the Georgian; or some may even be called Sister-Languages. All the tribes are Christian, except the Lazian. The language is essentially Non-Aryan. It has two alphabets, both of which derive from the Armenian alphabet: one is used for the Bible and religious works, the Kutsuri, or Priest's; the other is the Mekhedsuli Kheli, or Soldier's, which is the ordinary cursive script. The translation of the Bible dates back to the eighth century, and there are other specimens of archaic literature. This is a strong language, with great vitality, and will hold its own, and become the vehicle of culture and civilization.

In a general way the tribes, which make up the Northern Sub-Group, in the Western Regions of the Caucasus have been called the Circassian, in the Central Regions the Mizdzhedzi, and in the Eastern Regions the Lesgian: these are Ethnic terms. Almost all the Lesgians were Christians before the twelfth Century.

VII. Abkhás or Abas. This tribe occupies the Coast of the Black Sea from the point of Pitzunta to the confines of Mingrelia: they are kindred to the Tsherkess: the population numbers twenty-two thousand. Their language has been thoroughly studied and described. Mr. Peacock, Consul at Batúm, at my request, is preparing a collection of Sentences upon a fixed plan. They were once Christian, are nominally Mahometan, but practically Pagan.

VIII. Tsherkess. These are the famous Circassians: their proper name is Adighé. After a prolonged struggle they were subjugated by the Russians in 1864, and emigrated in a body of 400,000 to Turkey in Europe: the Russians made a solitude, and called it peace. The Statistics still show a population of one hundred and fifteen thousand, under the designation of Kabarda and other Circassian

Mountain tribes. The name of Kabarda appears twice in the Statistics, and is marked off separately in the Map: first as a portion of the Turki population, and secondly as a portion of the Tsherkess, who knuckled under to the Russians, and hold the country North of the Range from the valley of the River Kuban to that of the River Terek. All these tribes are Mahometan. Their language has been studied, but it has not been treated grammatically in accordance with the requirements of Philology, either by Schiefner or Fredk. Müller. The latter omits it entirely from his Grammatical Notices in Vol. III. of his *Grundriss der Sprachwissenschaft*, as if he considered that the Language had ceased to exist, which can hardly be asserted, as regards the emigrants into Turkey, or those who stayed behind in their native Mountains.

IX. Awár. These mountaineers number one hundred and fifty-five thousand, and their habitat is in the Eastern portion of the Range, in the very heart of Dághestan. Materials for a study of their language were collected by Berger, and on this basis, with the help of soldiers in the Circassian battalion stationed at St. Petersburg, Schiefner in 1862 published his Essay on the Awár. When Uslar published his more comprehensive essay on the Northern Dialect of this language, Schiefner returned to the subject, and published a comprehensive account, comparing the Awár grammatically, as well as lexicographically, with the other languages of the Caucasus. This is the only one of the Lesgian tribes, who have a written language, and they use the Arabic character. They are Mahometan.

X. Hurkan. In the Statistics this tribe is called Dargin, but the Philologists prefer the name entered above. There are three main Dialects, Akusha, Tschardak, Wurkun: the former is the most widely spoken, and best known. The population, which speaks this language, amounts to eighty-eight thousand: their habitat is East of the Awár, in the latitude of Derbend on the Caspian Sea. Uslar made investigations into the language, which Schiefner reported in 1871, and has been followed by Fredk. Müller.

XI. Kasikúmuk, who call themselves Lak. This tribe dwells in Central Daghestan, and number thirty-five thousand. They occupy a small enclave in the latitude of Derbend, betwixt the Awár and the Hurkan. Uslar made investigations, which Schiefner reported in 1866, followed by Fredk. Müller.

XII. Tabasseran. This small tribe of sixteen thousand occupy a small enclave South of the Hurkan. Uslar was engaged in the study of their language, when he was prematurely cut off in 1875, and his work has never been printed. We know that the tribe and the language exists, but nothing further. The Philological investigation has still to be made.

XIII. Kurin. This is an important tribe in South Daghestan, extending to the confines of the Tati population of the Bakú District, and numbering one hundred and thirty-one thousand. The tribe dwells both sides of the River Samur, as far as its outlet into the Caspian Sea, cutting through the territory of the Azerbijáni Turki. Uslar made investigations, which were reported by Schiefner in 1873, followed by Fredk. Müller. The Kurin language has been greatly affected by the Azerbijáni Turki.

XIV. Artshi. The name of a village with a population of only six hundred, within the enclave of the Kasikúmuk, yet Uslar reports that the inhabitants use a peculiar and isolated language. Fredk. Müller describes it.

XV. Ude. This language is only spoken in two villages to the South of the Kurin, and therefore quite outside the boundary of Daghestan. They are surrounded by villages, the inhabitants of which speak Azerbijáni Turki, and the population is barely ten thousand. The influence of the Turki on this language has been excessive. Schiefner published an Essay on this language, and has been followed by Fredk. Müller.

XVI. Tshetshen. } It seems expedient to treat together
XVII. Tush. } these two languages.

The Compiler of the Statistics takes no notice of the second name, but gives a population of one hundred and

sixty-five thousand for the first. They inhabit the Northern slopes of the Eastern Caucasus extending down the valley of the River Terek from the territory of the Ossete on the West: they touch the Awár on the South, but do not extend up to the highest ranges. Their language is very distinct from all the others, and there are a great many Dialects. Schiefner mentions that with the aid of a native he made an exhaustive treatise upon the Tush language in 1856. The appearance of this paper led Uslar, who had been commissioned to draw up an ethnographic description of the tribes of the Caucasus, to make similar investigations in the Tshetshen language, which stands in the closest connection with the Tush. Uslar's work relates chiefly to the dialect of the residents of the plain, and Schiefner was able on this basis in 1863 to show the relationship of the language to the cognate Tush, and the greater antiquity of the latter. One of the tribes is named Kisti, and some authorities have used this name incorrectly for the whole. Fredk. Müller treats the two Languages as one with dialectal differences.

The Ethnographical Map, prepared by the Russian Government, accounts for every square mile of the territory, and on a careful scrutiny the names of the following tribes remain without having any peculiar language of their own, and without being upon authority assigned to any language already noticed: they are all in the Lesgian or West Caucasus Group.

1. Andi. . . .	35,000	A subtribe of the Awár.
2. Dido. . . .	9,000	do. do.
3. Agúl. . . .	5,000	W. of Tabasseran.
4. Rutul . .	12,000	E. of Kurin, a subtribe of the Awár.
5. Tsakhur	4,000	W. of Rutul.
6. Dsheksh	8,000	S. of Kurin.
7. Khinalug	2,000	In the Kurin enclave.
8. Kriz. . . .	5,000	In the Kurin enclave.

80,000

Uslar died prematurely, so possibly there may be some

other forms of speech spoken by the eight subtribes above noted, and there may be other dialects of the languages which have been recorded. On the other hand, we find in no volume on the Caucasus vocabularies, or notices of languages, which cannot be located, which is so common a feature in volumes on Africa. All other names, which appear in the pages of travellers, are ethnical, synonyms, or sub-tribal names, or the varying names, given to each tribe by its neighbours, which is often a cause of confusion and double entries. If a new Uslar were deputed to the Region, his microscopic investigations might reveal new phenomena, though on a small scale.

We are most fortunate in having the careful studies of two such great Scholars as Schiefner and Fredk. Müller, based upon the local investigations of Uslar. I have no sympathy with those, who treat the vocabularies of tribes, segregated for Centuries in inapproachable mountains, as mere linguistic puzzles, furnishing materials for comparison with, and possibly fortuitous resemblance with, Vocabularies of tribes, who never possibly could have come into contact with them, or derived from the same source. But the study of the structure of a language is always interesting, so also is the degree to which that structure has been insensibly modified by the contact of powerful neighbouring languages. This opens out the still unsettled question of Mixed Languages.

I will conclude with an anecdote illustrating practically the Poliphony of the Caucasian Province. When I was at Bakú on the Caspian Sea in October 1883, I hired a carriage to drive six miles to the Petroleum Fields. My coachman, a good intelligent fellow, spoke nothing but Azerbaijani Turki, but my landlord, an Italian, explained to him carefully what he was to do, and we did very well until we arrived at the middle of the machinery. I was unable to formulate any question, and he had not the innate skill of a practised guide to explain by gesture what was going on around us. I was in despair, when I beheld a gentleman approaching me, whom by his dress and appearance I recognized to be an Armenian. Hat in hand I addressed him

consecutively in French, German, and Italian, and on each occasion he shook his head to indicate his inability to comprehend me. He then addressed me in what I knew by the sounds were Armenian, Azerbaijani Turki, and Russian: I shook my head hopelessly. It would have been an absurdity for me to address him in English, or for him to address me, as doubtless he was able, in Georgian. Nor did he presume to vex my soul with Tsherkess, or Awár, or any Mountain-language. We stood blandly smiling at each other, when under a sudden inspiration he muttered, rather than spoke, "I suppose you do not know Persian?" in the sweet language of Iran. "Not speak Persian," I replied, "I have been familiar with it since I was a youth." We then fraternized, and he explained everything, as he was a proprietor of many Petroleum Wells. He took me into his office, and gave me coffee and fruit, and we parted as warm friends, exchanging cards.

APPENDIX OF AUTHORITIES.

NO.	LANGUAGE.	DIALECT.	AUTHORITY.
I.	Persian.....	Talish.....	Beresine, <i>Recherches sur les Dialectes Persans</i> , Casan, 1853.
	Do.	Tati.....	(1) do. (2) Eichwald, <i>Reise auf der Kaspischen Meer</i> , Stuttgard, § 303.
II.	Kurd.....	—	Justi, <i>Kurdische Grammatik</i> , St. Petersburg, 1880.
III.	Armenian...	Trans-Caucasian.	Of the Standard Language there is an abundant Literature, but of this Dialect there is nothing, except the text of the Translation of the Bible.
IV.	Ossete.....	—	MaxMüller's <i>Survey of Languages</i> , 1855, p. 34. Sjogren, <i>Sprachlehre u. Worterbuch</i> , St. Petersburg, 1844. do. <i>Studien</i> , St. Petersburg, 1848. Fredk. Müller, <i>Allgemeine Ethnographie</i> , Vienna, 1879, pp. 27, 527. do. <i>Proc. Academ. Vienna</i> , 1861, 63, 64. Rosen, <i>Sprachlehre</i> , 1846; <i>Abhandlung</i> . Berlin. Acad. 1862, 63, 64, 67. Schiefner, <i>Tales, Texts, Proverbs, Animal Legends</i> . Lerch, <i>Plural Suffix</i> , <i>Memoires Academ.</i> St. Petersburg, 1864. Salemman, <i>Conjugation, Beiträge zur Vergleich. Sprachf.</i> (Kuhn), 1874.

- V. Turki I. Osmánli.. Well known.
 II. Azerbijáni (1) Berger, *Popular Songs*, noticed in Report of Third Oriental Congress, 1876. (2) Kasim Beg, *Turkish Grammar* (Russian), pp. 318-340; translated into German by Zenker, 1848, Leipzig.
 III. Karachai. Klaproth, *Reise II. Anhang*, pp. 273-279.
 V. Kumik ... do. do. pp. 273-288.
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