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PREFACE

With the publication of this issue, number 6 of its Papers, the Kroeber Anthropological Society commences its third year of existence. Reviewing the accomplishments of the past two years, the Society wishes to thank the numerous students, professors, contributors, and members who have taken an interest in the problems of the organization and have aided it in hours of difficulty. The Society hopes to be able to fulfill completely the expectations of these friends in its publications of the future.

In this issue the Society is pleased to present three relatively long descriptive papers—two dealing with South American ethnography, and one with the Russian period in Alaska. The first, on the Tapajó Indians of Brazil, has been translated, with additions, from Curt Nimuendajú's Portuguese original. After reviewing briefly the history of the Tapajó tribe, Nimuendajú presents a summary of the known ethnographic material relating to this people. The translation given here acquires added interest through the appended map, and through a new and complete translation of Mauricio de Heriarte's The Province of the Tapajós. This latter translation fills out and corrects Nimuendajú's article. Nimuendajú's map is reproduced here through the courtesy of Helen C. Palmatary, and shows the "black earth" sites discussed by the author.

The second paper of the issue continues the Society's policy of publishing manuscript material relating to the Russian period in Alaska. The contribution here consists of a reproduction of the manuscript translation of a fragment from the journal of the Reverend Father Juvenal, missionary to the Koniags and Iliamna people. This journal throws valuable light upon the relations existing between the Russian clergy and the natives in the last decade of the 18th century. It is unfortunate that Juvenal did not record native customs in greater detail, at least in the fragment given here. Longer descriptions may exist in the original, the location of which is unknown. The Society wishes to thank the Bancroft Library of the University of California for permission to publish this manuscript.

The last article presents a detailed reconstruction of the history of a tribe of northeastern Venezuela, the Guayqueri. This work attempts to fix an aboriginal tribe in time and space by considering the source materials from the time of the early Spaniards until the present, and by studying the nature of culture contact and change throughout this post-contact period. By such an analysis some order is established in the medley of historical references.

Bernard G. Hoffman,
Editor.

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