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PREFACE.

In presenting the fifth edition of this little work to the public, the compiler desires to call attention to the fact that the present edition is much more comprehensive and complete than any that has preceded it. This is mainly attributable to the fact that the compiler has had recourse to the excellent vocabularies of Horatio Hale, published in Philadelphia in 1846, and the more recent work published by the Smithsonian Institute, under the supervision of George Gibbs, Esq., whose long residence on this coast, peculiarly adapted him for the successful completion of the work.

In this connection it may not be uninteresting to trace the origin of the Chinook Jargon, and enumerate the various vocabularies that have been issued:—The earliest dictionary of which we have any record, in which may be found many of the words at present embodied in the Chinook Jargon, is Jewett's narrative of the fate of the unfortunate ship *Boston*, which was destroyed by the natives of Nootka Sound. This book was compiled in 1815. Since that time nearly twenty different vocabularies have been published.

The number of words constituting the Jargon proper has been estimated at five hundred. Many words are omitted from this vocabulary for the reason that they have become obsolete, or are in use only in certain localities. Of the Chinook language proper there are but two hundred words used in the Jargon, the balance being made up from the Nootka, Chehalis, Klickitat, Yakima, Cree and other Indian languages, together with a number of words derived from the Canadian French, and many English words of easy pronunciation.

RULE FOR PRONUNCIATION.

The accented letters used in the present vocabulary represent the words wherein they occur as having the broad sound of á as in water, thus—wá-wá—pronounced as if written "waw-waw."