

This logic and consequent facility are sadly wanting in the old Syllabary which is made up of disconnected signs many of which are differentiated only by additional and *external* smaller signs (ʼḥ ʼḗ ḥ ḥ̄ ḥ̅ ḥ̆ ḥ̇ ḥ̈ ḥ̉ ḥ̊ ḥ̋ ḥ̌ ḥ̍ ḥ̎ ḥ̏ ḥ̐ ḥ̑ ḥ̒ ḥ̓ ḥ̔ ḥ̕ ḥ̖ ḥ̗ ḥ̘ ḥ̙ ḥ̚ ḥ̛ ḥ̜ ḥ̝ ḥ̞ ḥ̟ ḥ̠ ḥ̡ ḥ̢ ḥ̣ ḥ̤ ḥ̥ ḥ̦ ḩ̣ ḥ̨ ḥ̩ ḥ̪ ḥ̫ ḥ̬ ḥ̭ ḥ̮ ḥ̯ ḥ̰ ḥ̱ ḥ̲ ḥ̳ ḥ̴ ḥ̵ ḥ̶ ḥ̷ ḥ̸ ḥ̹ ḥ̺ ḥ̻ ḥ̼ ḥ̽ ḥ̾ ḥ̿ ḥ̺ ḥ̻ ḥ̼ ḥ̽ ḥ̾ ḥ̿) most of which are also used as non-syllabic letters, and as such sometimes have, in that same alphabet, a value quite different from that which is attributed to them when they are considered as accessories.

This arbitrary change of value, joined to the fact that these modifying signs sometimes precede, sometimes follow the main character, must unavoidably confuse the mind of the beginner, and render the acquisition of reading unnecessarily difficult.

IV.—In the Déné Syllabary, all the small signs are separate consonants without vowel, and in no instance is any of them used in another capacity. They have always the same value, and the method and logic which we have noticed in the formation of the main or syllabic signs have also presided to the composition of those which are merely consonantal. Thus the non-syllabic gutturals are expressed by vertical lines (ʼ ḥ ḥ̄ ḥ̅ ḥ̆ ḥ̇ ḥ̈ ḥ̉ ḥ̊ ḥ̋ ḥ̌ ḥ̍ ḥ̎ ḥ̏ ḥ̐ ḥ̑ ḥ̒ ḥ̓ ḥ̔ ḥ̕ ḥ̖ ḥ̗ ḥ̘ ḥ̙ ḥ̚ ḥ̛ ḥ̜ ḥ̝ ḥ̞ ḥ̟ ḥ̠ ḥ̡ ḥ̢ ḥ̣ ḥ̤ ḥ̥ ḥ̦ ḩ̣ ḥ̨ ḥ̩ ḥ̪ ḥ̫ ḥ̬ ḥ̭ ḥ̮ ḥ̯ ḥ̰ ḥ̱ ḥ̲ ḥ̳ ḥ̴ ḥ̵ ḥ̶ ḥ̷ ḥ̸ ḥ̹ ḥ̺ ḥ̻ ḥ̼ ḥ̽ ḥ̾ ḥ̿); the nasals by semicircles (ḥ ḥ̄ ḥ̅ ḥ̆ ḥ̇ ḥ̈ ḥ̉ ḥ̊ ḥ̋ ḥ̌ ḥ̍ ḥ̎ ḥ̏ ḥ̐ ḥ̑ ḥ̒ ḥ̓ ḥ̔ ḥ̕ ḥ̖ ḥ̗ ḥ̘ ḥ̙ ḥ̚ ḥ̛ ḥ̜ ḥ̝ ḥ̞ ḥ̟ ḥ̠ ḥ̡ ḥ̢ ḥ̣ ḥ̤ ḥ̥ ḥ̦ ḩ̣ ḥ̨ ḥ̩ ḥ̪ ḥ̫ ḥ̬ ḥ̭ ḥ̮ ḥ̯ ḥ̰ ḥ̱ ḥ̲ ḥ̳ ḥ̴ ḥ̵ ḥ̶ ḥ̷ ḥ̸ ḥ̹ ḥ̺ ḥ̻ ḥ̼ ḥ̽ ḥ̾ ḥ̿), etc. Note also the transformation of *s* into *sh*, of *z* into *zh* or *j*, etc. through the insertion of the *i* or modifying *h* of the large characters.

The old Alphabet not only lacks this method and resulting simplicity, but it would seem as if its originator had purposedly contrived to render its acquisition unduly difficult to the white student by giving to *s* the value of *l*, to *h* that of *f*, etc.

V.—Not only this; but in the would-be adaptation of Evans' system to the needs of the Eastern Dénés, such essentially distinct letters as *m* and the Greek *chi* (my *kh*) are rendered by exactly the same sign *c*, in the same way as both *s* and *z* are expressed by *h*. Now, in Carrier *tiz* means here and *tis* younger sister; *uyiz* is the equivalent of "his voice", while *uyis* corresponds to "his wart", two things somewhat different, if I mistake not. Similar examples illustrating the immense difference in the philological value of those two letters in all the Déné dialects could be quoted almost *ad infinitum*.

We may also remark that, in the same graphic system, both the letter *h* and the hiatus, two very distinct phonetic elements