nation by which the name was given,—as for example, 'the land on the other side of the river,' 'behind the mountain,' 'the east land,' 'the half-way place,' &c. The same name might be, in fact it very often was, given to more places than one ; but these must not be so near together that mistakes or doubts could be occasioned by the repetition. With this precaution, there was no reason why there might not be as many ' Great Rivers,' ' Bends,' ' Forks,' and ' Water-fall places'' as there are Washingtons, Franklins, Unions, and Fairplays in the list of American post-offices.

With few exceptions, the structure of these names is simple. Nearly all may be referred to one of three classes :

I. Those formed by the union of two elements, which we will call *adjectival* and *substantival ;** with or without a locative suffix or post-position meaning ' at,' ' in,' ' by,' ' near,' &c.

II. Those which have a single element, the *substantival* or ' ground-word,' with its locative suffix.

III. Those formed from verbs, as participials or verbal nouns, denoting a *place where* the action of the verb is performed. To this class belong, for example, such names as *Mushauwomuk* (Boston), ' where there is going-by-boat,' *i. e.*, a ferry, or canoe-crossing. Most of these names, however, may be shown by rigid analysis to belong to one of the two preceding classes, which comprise at least nine-tenths of all Algonkin local names which have been preserved.

The examples I shall give of these three classes, will be taken from Algonkin languages; chiefly from the Massachu-

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* These terms, though not strictly appropriate to Indian synthesis, are sufficiently explicit for the purposes of this paper. They are borrowed from the author of " Words and Places" (the Rev. Isaac Taylor), who has employed them (2d ed., p. 460) as equivalents of Förstemann's " Bestimmungswort " and " Grundwort," (*Die deutschen Ortsnamen.* Nordhausen, 1863, pp. 26—107, 109—174). In Indian names, the " Bestimmungswort" sometimes corresponds to the English adjective—sometimes to a noun substantive—but is more generally an *adverb*.