

Mackenzie, the 'Tinnè lands are conterminous with the Eskimo coast, and, to the westward of the Rocky Mountains, with the Kutchin grounds, though the precise geographical limits of the two nations in that direction have not yet been correctly ascertained. The 'Tinnè, however, extend across the continent, since the *Tā-kuli* and almost the entire population of New Caledonia have been referred by ethnologists to their nation.

The name by which the 'Tinnè designate themselves has, as is usual with the native Americans, the signification of "people," or "the people," and its proper application, when ascertained with care, would seem, at first sight, to be a good test for fixing the nationality of some tribes whose position in the ethnological scale is still uncertain. But as our acquaintance with the various American languages extends, and the way in which the pronunciation of the same word in the mouths of different tribes is gradually modified becomes known, doubts arise as to the value of such a test, or, rather, the opinion of the intimate connection between the various tongues is strengthened, though it may be difficult to trace their links in vocabularies compiled by Europeans. Thus, though no two languages can be apparently more dissimilar than the harsh, guttural, unpronounceable, and unwritable 'Tinnè speech, and the flowing, harmonious, and