

NAMING.

When a child is born the parents make a feast and invite all the relatives. Later, when the child is about a year old, the mother generally appoints some old man or woman, selected on account of certain good qualities, to give the child a name. At this time another feast is held, during which the name-giver lifts up the infant and announces the name he has chosen for it; in a few words he or she bestows the name upon it. Then, as the food is passed around among the assembly from right to left, the child is also handed from one to the other, and each guest kisses it. This little ceremony makes public the name, which is retained without change through life, unless it should happen that some funny episode in the person's career should give rise to a nickname. It may also happen that a child grows up without ever having the naming feast given for him. Then, of course, he simply has to acquire one by being nicknamed among his relatives or associates. Names of the latter sort are, however, considered inferior.¹ Many of them are merely syllables of baby talk which grow into the names of the little tots who utter them because they sound "cute" to their folks. In the list just given the two sorts of names can readily be distinguished.

These really poetical names, among which sky and weather terms predominate, are derived from the particular time of day or night or the condition of weather prevailing when the child is born. The names are mostly composite terms combined with "man" or "woman." They not only have an aesthetic value, being euphonious as such to the Indian ear, but disclose a creditable appreciation of nature on the part of the natives.

CHIEFTAINSHIP.

In the native political organization of this band the head official was the chief, *ogi'ma*. There was also a second chief,

¹ Some nicknames given to white people illustrate how the Indians seize upon some characteristic sound or trait. A Mr. Weaver was known among the Timagami people as *K'i'te'a'mi'k* "Big Beaver," by a corruption of the sound of the English name; Mr. Montgomery as *K'i'te'pigi'a'w* "Big Gum"; Mr. Southard as *K'i'te'sa'wano'gi* "Big Southerner"; Mr. Woods, the H. B. co. factor, as *Ada'weewini'ni* "Store man." On account of my interest in old time lore, I received the nickname of *Ota'tsoke'wini'ni* "Story man."