

dialects, the Dacotah is peculiarly rich. So complete is the compensation made by the Dacotah dialects for Wyandot shortcomings in this respect, that labials utterly unknown to the original root start up everywhere, as terminal, medial, and even initial sounds. On the other hand, the strong Mohawk *r* is almost absent in Dacotah; the Upsarokas, Minetarees and Mandans, who sometimes employ this letter, being very sparing in its use. Nor, can it be said, save as a rare exception, that there is an *l* in Dacotah to atone for the comparative absence of *r*, with which, in the Iroquois dialects, it is at times interchanged. The general vocabulary has miscellaneous Siberian affinities, largely with the Samoied, and many with the Ugrian languages. (I may say that I use the word Ugrian to denote the Finnic-Magyar family of languages as opposed to the Altaic, which includes the Tartar, Mongol and Tungus, since I cannot see the propriety of extending it, as has often been done, to the whole Ural-Altaic division). I was thus upon the point of making the Dacotahs a Samoied colony, and had, indeed, communicated the likelihood of such a relationship to correspondents interested in American philology, when light broke upon the subject in connection with the terminations of verbal forms, which, being followed up by other coincidences, settled the matter in favour of a Peninsular origin for the Dacotahs, as well as for the Iroquois and Choctaws. The Hon. Lewis H. Morgan has shown that the Dacotah and Iroquois dialects are allied, and that the latter separated from the parent stock at a much earlier period than the former.

The Dacotahs, better known as the Sioux, and the Nadowessies of Carver and other older writers, are a warlike, intrusive people, of good stature, and generally pleasing appearance, with capabilities of no mean order, and exhibiting, as in the case of the Mandans, a considerable advance in culture beyond the neighbouring tribes. They occupy a great portion of the centre of the continent, being essentially an inland people like the Wyandots and Choctaws. Their hunting-grounds extend from the Red River to the Saskatchewan southwards to the Arkansas, and are chiefly found between the Mississippi on the east and the Rocky Mountains on the west. They are thus the neighbours of many Algonquin tribes, with which they are more or less intermixed. The principal tribes of this family are the Sioux or Dacotahs proper, the Yanktons, Winnebagoes, Assiniboins, whose name is Algonquin, Mandans, Upsarokas or Crows,