

In conversing with Odjidjatékha, an educated and intelligent Mohawk from Brantford, Ontario, I learned that the fact of the existence of "child-words" had come under his notice. He was able to remember four only of these:

Gi-ti-ni.—Horse. The ordinary Mohawk word is *ga-nuh-sa*.

O-dji.—An exclamation of fear, fright.

Tata.—Bread. The ordinary word is *ga-na-tah-ro*.

Wa-wa.—Meat. The ordinary word is *O-wa-ra*.

He also mentioned the curious fact that there is some difference between the pronunciation of the men and the women, the former, for example, saying *dota* and the latter *toda*, the consonants being vigorously uttered in each case. The first of the "child-words" in question, *gi-ti-ni*, was, so Odjidjatékha informed me, an invention of his own when a little boy.

Cuoq¹ in his Iroquois Dictionary gives some examples of "child-words" in that dialect. These I have here arranged alphabetically for more explicit reference. He calls attention to the existence of the letters *b*, *p*, and *m* in these words, letters which are entirely foreign to the language of the adult Iroquois.

Aa.—Used with sense of French *caca*.

Ah.—Something dirty or bad tasting.

Aia.—Hurt. Same signification as French *bobo*.

Atsio.—Signifies heat and burns, cold, chilblains, etc. (Le chaud et les brûlures, le froid et les engelures).

Ba.—Expresses the action of kissing, etc. (baiser, embrasser).

En.—Expresses approval, consent, obedience.

Enh.—Expresses refusal, rejection, repulsion.

Fa.—Expresses a disagreeable odor.

Iaiaa.—Used to designate fruit with pips, stones (fruits à pépin).

Kak.—Signifies a bite, cut, etc.

Man.—Used when asking for food, drink, etc.

Mants.—Used when asking to be suckled.

Mionts.—Used to name cats.

Oo.—Used when asking to be put in a vehicle, canoe, etc.

Otsih.—Expresses fear produced by the sight of a human being, an animal, etc.

Tataa.—Bread, cake.

Taten.—Used when asking to be taken up and carried in the arms of father or mother.

¹ Lexique de la langue iroquoise. Montréal, 1882, pp. 191-192.