Anthro

ir 1879.

hington.

PREFACE.

The design of the present work is to afford assistance in the study of the language, mainly to those who have dedicated themselves to the teaching and regeneration of these Indian tribes.

The method of classifying the Indian words according to their etymology, or under the roots from which they originate, though fraught with no little difficulty to the unfearned, has, however, been pursued, and by many advised, as the only proper one, in view of the highly educated character of the missionaries for whose perusal the work is intended.

That a better order, a better diction and a better typographical dress could have been made use of, is freely acknowledged by the author, who labored under no inconsiderable difficulties to bring this edition, such as it is, to consummation, and he hopes that others, availing themselves of his labor, may correct the many blunders, and give it that finish of which the language is capable.

The author owes much to the manuscript dictionary of Rev. G. Mengarini, who, first of all the Jesuit Missionaries, possessed himself of the genius of this language, and besides speaking it with the perfection of a native Indian, reduced it also to the rules of a grammar.

The abbreviations used in the Dictionary seem plain enough without further explanation.

The Arabic numbers between parenthesis refer to the different conjugations, which will be found in the Appendix.

St. Ignatius Mission, M. T., July 31, 1879.