

To follow the history of interpreting, political, commercial and social, in those distant ages, would be to trace the course of migration, of conquest, of trade and of colonization over a great part of the then known world. It is only here and there, however, and incidentally that we are brought face to face with a class of men, whose presence we feel in all this moving to and fro of humanity. Often between two or among several contiguous but alien communities there grew up, as in later times, a sort of *lingua franca* intelligible to both or all. Such a service was rendered, as Prof. Sayce tells us (*The Ancient Empires of the East*, p. 174), by the Aramaic which, after the fall of Tyre and Sidon under the second Assyrian Empire, superseded the older forms of speech and became the language of trade and diplomacy over a considerable portion of the Hither East. What is called a *lingua franca* must, of course, be looked at separately from that other outcome of the effort to do without interpreters, among nationalities thrown constantly together, which has been fitly designated jargon. This class of speech—to which, perhaps, philologists have not paid sufficient attention as a factor in the formation of new tongues—has generally come into existence under circumstances which would ordinarily call for the services of an interpreter. As well-known instances of it, may be mentioned the Chinook jargon of the northern Pacific coast, the Nahua-Spanish of Mexico, and the Pigeon English of the Anglo-Chinese.* That lingo of this kind was not un-

* I have just received through the courtesy of the learned author, an extremely valuable contribution to the elucidation of this branch of linguistics from the pen of the most accomplished master of the philology of the aboriginal languages of this continent, Mr. Horatio Hale, M.A., F.R.S. Can., Ethnographer and Philologist of the U. S. Exploring Expedition. It is entitled "A Manual of the Oregon Trade Language, or 'Chinook Jargon'"—a subject with which Mr. Hale was the first to deal scientifically some forty years ago. The volume is published by Messrs Whittaker & Co., White Hart Street, Paternoster Row, London.