

GLOOSCAP.

The First Acadian Exile.

"Weegegijik ! kessegook wigwamk ;
Meskeek oodum ulnoo, kes saak, "
[May you be happy ! the old people are encamped.
There was once, long ago, a large Indian village.]

Classic introduction to all the ancient Ahtookwakun.

Mighty in friendship was Glooscap, and mighty in magic,
He who loved Truth as his life,—the one true necromancer.
He was a *kenap*,² *boooiin*,³ a great *malbalaawe*⁴
Yet he stood true to his friends ; he was mighty in friendship !

Over the far-heaving sea came the mighty in friendship,
Came from the East, in his *kweedun*,⁵ a small rocky island,
That sped with the swiftness of light at the beck of its master,
And reached without paddle or sail the wild shores of *Megamagee*.⁶

He dwelt many lifetimes in fertile Acadian valleys,
Then passed, alas that he must, to the land of the sunset.
He cannot come back until men shall speak the truth with their
neighbors.

The *Acadie*,⁷ that he has made now knows him no longer.

"*Paalumakik koobetaku*"⁸ Cape Split, and he dug through at Digby,
And drained the Annapolis Valley, to make it his garden ;
He counselled great *Kuhkwu*,⁹ the Earthquake, the spirit of justice ;
And rolled old *Koolpuiut*¹⁰ with handspikes in springtime and Autumn.

1 "Ahtookwokun," legendary folk-love. 2 "Kenap," supernatural warrior.

3 "Boooiin," magician

4 "Malbalaawe," physician and surgeon.

5 "Kweedun," canoe.

6 "Megamagee," Micmac name for the Maritime Provinces, meaning the home of the true men, the Micmaes.

7 "Acadie," the place of,—cf. Shubenacadie, (Segubun-acadie) the place of the segubun or ground-nuts; cf. also Baslooacadie, the landing place, Cape Traverse, and St. Peter's island, P. E. I.

8 "Paalumakik koobetaku," he cut through the beaver-dam at (Cape Split.)

9, 10 These mythical characters were brought to Megamagee by Glooscap, the latter has no bones, and cannot help himself, he has to be rolled over with hand-