

V.—*Are the Carrier Sociology and Mythology Indigenous or Exotic?*

(WITH A MAP.)

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## LIST OF INDIAN (DÉNÉ) VILLAGES, REFERRING TO NUMBERS SHOWN UPON THE MAP.

1. Na'kraztti	9. Hwo'tat	17. Teinlak (population exter-	23. Pel'katcék
2. Pintce	10. Tsétcah	minated by the Chi-	24. q'katco
3. Thatce	11. 'Xéyaxhwotqet	koh'tin)	25. Nakunt'lun
4. Yekutce	12. Tsej'kazqoh	18. Teit'ji	26. (I have forgotten name)
5. 'Keztce	13. Stélla	19. Nesietcah	27. T'lothénqah
6. Sést'sethût	14. Natle	20. Tcentsithal'a (Quesnelle)	28. Tlæsqoh
7. Lathakrezla	15. Nuikreh	21. Stélla (Carriers)	29. Stélla (Chiikoh'tin)
8. Næs'qóllək	16. Sai'kez	22. Tus'kez	30. Qéz'oñlathût

Though very few aboriginal words occur in the course of this paper, I give below the chief peculiarities of the Déné phonology such as rendered in the following pages :

The vowels are as in French, except *e, u*, as in Italian; *é* as the *e* in the French " *été* "; *è* as *e* in English " *ten* "; *ø* as the so-called French *e muet*; *au* as in German " *hauss* "; *ai* as the *i* of the English " *file* ."

*N* is a nasal followed by a sonant *n*; *ɲ* is a linguo-sibilant of peculiar sound; *ʀ* and *ʁ* are very guttural; *q* almost corresponds to *ty*, both letters being consonants; *ch* and *sh* as in English. The apostrophe (') accompanying certain letters adds to their original value the peculiar exploding sound common to most Indian languages.

The names of non-Déné tribes on the map and through the paper are according to Dr. Boas's orthography.

## INTRODUCTORY.

In the first place, who are the Carriers? Unless I am greatly mistaken, a respectable majority of the intelligent reading public, and even not a few professional Americanists, would not be the worse for some light being thrown on this subject before an attempt is made to answer the question heading this paper. For, strange as it may seem, while all of their heterogeneous neighbours have served as the theme of many a learned dissertation by Canadian and American ethnologists, the Carriers, and in general the whole aboriginal stock to which they belong, had before the publication of the present writer's monographs on their sociology and philology hardly been honoured by aught else than brief passing references which, I am bound to say, evidenced as a rule more ignorance of, than familiarity with, the subject. The conscientious reports of Dr. Franz Boas published in 1889 and 1890 under the auspices of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, while minutely describing all that is worth knowing concerning every Indian tribe having its habitat in British Columbia, do not contain any more lengthened mention of our Carriers than this brief remark, which implicitly refers to them: "The author's