

## PREFACE.

---

It should be premised that the following Vocabulary was collected at different times and from different Indians, and has never been revised with the assistance of one person. It undoubtedly contains words of two dialects, the Chinook proper and the Clatsop, and probably also of the Wakiakum. The words themselves, however, it is believed, are generally correct, and in some instances the dialect has been noted. The only apology for publishing it in its present form is, that the Indians speaking the Chinook language are so nearly extinct, that no other, better digested, is likely to be made, and that even thus it affords means for a much more extended comparison of this with other Indian languages than now exists.

The nation, or rather family, to which the generic name of Chinook has attached, formerly inhabited both banks of the Columbia River, from its mouth to the Grand Dalles, a distance of about a hundred and seventy miles, and was, as usual among the sedentary Indians of the west, broken up into numerous bands, each having its own village and chiefs, and possessing its special name; no common appellation being adopted by themselves, unless it might be the word signifying "people," or "the people."

Mr. Hale, in his *Ethnography of the U. S. Exploring Expedition*, has divided these into Upper and Lower Chinooks; the latter, as I suppose, intended only to include the Indians between Oak Point