

principality ; and, on American ground is the original Otompan of the Mexican historians. The Mekushi who fought against Maka-Wala were the ancestors of the Mexicans proper, and when, by way of the Mississippi, they made their way southward, they carried with them the record of this tribal conflict in the north. From these considerations I was disposed to regard Iowa as the first theatre of American history as distinguished from barbaric wanderings. But Michigan now puts in a claim of forty-

The poverty of the following syllabary will explain apparent inconsistency in the rendering of vowel sounds and aspirates, and in the consonantal forms k, t and s, replaced by g, d and j.

I / - \ open vowel or aspirate o, ha, ye, &c
 V Γ Γ Γ Γ ρ ρ ρ ρ labials, b, f, r, v syllables
 w syllable
 H H N, ka, ga.
 Y Y, ku, gu, ko, go.
 4 ke, ge, ki, gi
 // = X + ρ X < C dentals, d and t syllables.
 > > L, sibilants, s, ch, and j syllables
 < Y > ds, tz syllables.
 O δ Δ ρ □ M m syllables.
 E E Z Σ n syllables.
 A λ O R □ r syllables.
 w w w w, anon.
 w amida:

VOWELS, &C., SUBSCRIPT.

H, aka.
 X, of.
 V, bei.
 X, toi.

PLATE VI.

eight years' priority, in the person of Hikaye of the Otos or Utes, who appear to have been the same race as the Aztecs of Mexico. The Mexicans were a branch of the Aztecs, and they again of the Chichimecs, now represented by the Shoshonese of the Rocky Mountains. It is not impossible that the Otos, who, like the Iowas, belong to the great Dakota family, represent the descendants of Hikaye's tribe in retrogression, for no trace of them is to be found in the east ; but the probability is that the Dakotas belong to a much later tide of immigration, subsequent to that of the Huron-Iroquois-Cherokee stock, which was by no means one of the