

language of the stamp of production of nature, which every language really is, and thus give it the appearance of a work of art, which a language never can become."—(*Buttman's Larger Greek Grammar, Introduction.*) Unquestionably the rude Indians never made it their business to polish their language, or perfect it in any way, and the lexicographer, the grammarian, or the translator soon finds out that do this for them is no part or portion of *his* business. His work is just to take it as it is, and not attempt to criticise it, or mend it. He may leave that to the philologists and philosophers.

But to return to our long Indian word. It springs from a very small root, and, like the tree to which we thus compare it, grows at both ends. The root is *kej*, the stem of many words denoting knowledge. Thus, *kej-edega*, I know. *Kej-edoo*, I know it. *Ke-jeek*, I know him. The adverb *neganu*, beforehand, prefixed to *kej-edoo*, with the changes required to form the union, gives *neganik-chijedoo*, I know it beforehand: in other words, I am a prophet. A syllable denoting the agent of the action denoted by the verb, added on to the end, the two parts being again pared and fitted so that the union may be affected smoothly, and you have, *neganik-chije-teg-awenoo*. Lit., "a man who knows things beforehand," that is, a prophet. One more addition, *adega*, and the special action of the prophet is denoted. *Neganik-chije-tegawenoo-adega*—I prophesy. A further addition to this forms a noun which means the peculiar work of the prophet—prophesy or prophesying. Three words prefixed, denoting very, superlatively, and good or excellent, with a part of the possessive adjective pronoun *their*, (*oo*), placed before them, and the remaining portion of this pronoun, with the plural ending (*umooool*), put at the end, and your word is formed. You may still bend on, to use a sea phrase, as many more adjectives at the beginning as you like, and add several more syllables at the end; but the word is long enough in all conscience as it is for our present use.

In many instances these "word-phrases," holophrases, as they are termed, while appearing to the eye so long and unwieldy, are in reality "labor-saving machines," for the thoughts are often expressed much more briefly than in English, as well as more forcibly. Thus:—