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THE HUMAN
PREFACE.

The present is the fourth book printed with the signs of the methodical Déné Syllabary, which first came into use in the latter part of 1885, and which has since rendered most valuable services. Therewith the natives of northern British Columbia can write correctly and read with the greatest ease their various dialects, and therefore learn without the help of their spiritual guide all the lessons of the Catechism, all the prayers or hymns which he may direct them to acquire. They now correspond by letters, keep private accounts of their dues and of their debts, and post or scribble on the trees of the forest records of their late deeds or of their present wants for the benefit of parties likely to follow in their tracks.

And all this, let us not forget, without any regular schooling, since our Indians acquire reading by the merest pretense of mutual teaching.