

SINGULAR.

Masculine, The man appears. . . Ahnine nahgoze.

Neuter, The island appears . . Minis nahgwud.

PLURAL.

Masculine, The men appear . . . Ahnnewug nahgozewug.

Neuter, The islands appear . . Minisun nahgwudoon.

Let us take a verb transitive and a common gender ; I see a star, Niwahbuhmah ahnung ; I see an island, Niwahbundaun minis, *neuter* ; Niwahbuhmahg ahnungwug, I see stars ; Niwahbundaunun minisun, I see islands.

I give this pipe to you, Kiminin mahbah opwahgun.

You give this pipe to me, . . . Kimeezh mahbah opwahgun.

He gives this pipe to me, . . . Niminig.ahnoonduh opwahgunun.

In the last example not only the verb changes, but the demonstrative pronoun used in the first and second persons is no longer available in the third, and *un* is added to the end of the substantive. Sometimes the *n* in the personal pronoun is dropped, as is shown in the above examples ; other times it is preserved, and occasionally *d* is put between it and the following word beginning with a vowel ; thus, I went, Nin-ge-izhah ; I go, Nind-izhah.

The foregoing will show some of the varieties in Indian verbs, yet, notwithstanding these endless variations, insertions and omissions of syllables in the verbs and other words, a stranger will be surprised to hear Indian children speak their language as fluently and correctly as persons in grey hairs.

In order to show that none of the Tribes speak exactly alike, the following will serve as examples, how and wherein they differ :

ODAHWAH.	ENGLISH.	OJIBWA.
Ahnine ¹	A man	Enine.
Nibeesh	Water	Nibe.
Dokisin	It is calm	Onwahtin.

The Algonquins say, *Naupij* for *very*, Odahwahs, *Ahpidji*. I may here observe that I am informed some of the Tribes west of the Rocky Mountains call the sun *Kesoos*, and the earth, *Ke*, while the Odahwahs call them *Kezis* and *Ahke*. If my information is correct, it would tend to show that there is similarity of words among various Tribes, however distant they may be from one another.

It is also my desire to take notice in this paper of the inaccurate manner in which Indian words are pronounced and spelled by white