

## CARRIERS AND AINOS AT HOME.

(From the AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN.)

By Carriers I do not mean here with the Standard Dictionary "a person or company that undertakes to carry or makes a business of carrying persons or goods for hire", nor do I take that word in any of the numerous acceptations enumerated by that work. Throughout this article, a Carrier will be a member of that important aboriginal tribe whose habitat lies to the west of the Rocky Mountains between 52° and 56° of latitude north, and forms a part of the great Déné family of Indians.

The Carriers are the so-called Tacullies or Tahkalis of the early travelers and traders, who meant thereby the Takhepe (singular Takhep), a meaningless cognomen of extraneous origin which nowadays is applied by the Carriers to all the American aborigines.

Their English name is a literal translation of the "Porteurs" of the French Canadians formerly in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company, who themselves simply translated the *A-rejne*, "packers", of the Sékanais Indians, according to the particular genius of their idiom which lacks a proper equivalent for the Anglo-Saxon verb to pack. "Packers" would have been more appropriate than Carriers.