

Place-nomenclature.

great many of them are current in New Brunswick. Thus, to take those of most dignity, *Shepody* is locally believed to be derived from Chapeau Dieu, God's hat, in allusion to Shepody mountain. *Tetagouche* is supposed to be corruption of Tête-à-gauche, explained by a story to the effect that its first explorers found it heading unexpectedly "to the left" as they ascended it. Yet we know that both of these words are of Indian origin. Again *Tormentine* is said locally to be named for the torments suffered through mosquitoes, etc., by its first settlers, and *Midgie* similarly for torments of midgits. Again, *Pointe de Bute* is locally said to be altered from Point of Boat, name of a ferry once there. Yet we know the origins of these words were very different. Again, it is sometimes thought, (especially by those who have come to know that place-names undergo much change) that some names of very obvious origin have arisen in some more complex manner. Thus Devil's Head on the St. Croix (in Maine) is locally explained by some as rightly Duval's Head, from a former resident, and by others as D'orville's Head (for a companion of Champlain). Yet there is every evidence that it really originated in its present form. Of a somewhat different nature are the origins attributed to Indian and other strange names. Thus, I have seen *Quaco* explained in a newspaper as from a phrase uttered in irritation by an Indian maiden disturbed by the noise of wild ducks, "hush, don't quack so"; two or three correspondents write me that *Portobello* is locally explained as the result of the loud halloing of a man named Porter when lost in the woods, as reported by an Indian who said "Porter Bellow"; another correspondent tells me *Nauwigewauk* is locally explained as the expression of an Indian whose wearied squaw had been allowed to rest there for a time,—“now would ye walk”; *Kennebecasis* is often explained, even in print, as result of the expression of two travellers lost on the river in a snowstorm, who saw a tavern on the bank, which they thought they knew, and one asked the other, "Can it be Cases?" Again *Tryon Settlement*, in Charlotte, is stated to have been named when it was new by a traveller who approached it at night and asked for lodging, and was told to "try on," and received the same reply at each. And there are, no doubt, many others. Yet in most, if not all, these cases, we know the true origin, which is very different.¹ Originally, no doubt,

¹ In the same spirit, though in different form is the "legend" of the origin of the name *Tobique*, locally explained as extended from Tobique Rocks (below the mouth of that river), which name, in turn, arose thus: an Indian and the Devil were throwing these rocks to see which could throw the farthest, and the Indian in his ardour having stepped over the proper mark, the Devil exclaimed, "toe-back."