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ON SOME WORDS DERIVED FROM LANGUAGES OF N. AMERICAN INDIANS.

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When two individuals or companies, each ignorant of the other's language, are brought together and seek to maintain intercourse, an artificial dialect is likely to be formed as their medium of communication. Something like elective affinity takes place among the elements of speech. Words and formatives enter into new combinations and crystalize in new shapes. Each language borrows from the other what it can most readily assimilate to itself. One contributes a primary verb, to which the other gives an adverbial prefix, or imparts causative or intensive expression. One supplies the greater number of words, the other more largely influences grammatical construction. Aspirates, sibilants, gutturals, or combinations of consonants, which present difficulties to speakers of either language, are eliminated from the new. Of such artificial dialects, the "pigeon-English" of China, the "talkee-talkee" of the negroes of Surinam, and the "Chinook jargon" or trade language of Oregon, are familiar examples. The last, founded on the Chinook, borrows largely from English and French, with some contributions from the Spanish; but words of European origin have received such modifications of sound, accent, and meaning, that their identity is nearly lost. For

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