

**VOCABULARY**  
**OF THE**  
**MASSACHUSETTS (OR NATICK) INDIAN LANGUAGE.**

**BY JOSIAH COTTON.**

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**ADVERTISEMENT.**

THE following Vocabulary of the Indian Language, in the Natick or Massachusetts dialect, is faithfully copied from a manuscript compiled by the Hon. Josiah Cotton, a respectable inhabitant of Plymouth, who died in 1756, aged 77. He was the second son of the Rev. John Cotton, pastor of the first church in that ancient town twenty-eight years, from 1669 to 1697. Josiah Cotton was graduated at Harvard College in 1698. His early years, after his leaving College, were spent in Marblehead, where he was employed as a schoolmaster; his studies in the mean time were principally in theology. He was never settled, however, in the ministry; but, returning to his native town early in the last century, after some years of occupation in that place as a schoolmaster, he devoted himself to agricultural pursuits and to the discharge of several civil offices which he sustained. The offices which he held successively or in conjunction, were those of Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, Justice of the same Court, Register of Probate, and Register of Deeds. In the latter office he was succeeded by his son, John Cotton, who was succeeded by his son, Rossiter Cotton, the present worthy occupant of that office, to whose kindness this Society and the friends of ancient lore are indebted for a communication of this manuscript, and of other documents eminently useful and acceptable for the elucidation of our early history. This respectable family derives its origin from the celebrated John Cotton of Boston. Josiah Cotton as well as his father, in addition to their other employments, performed the duties of missionaries to the Indians at Plymouth and other places in that vicinity. The father was eminently skilled in the Indian language, of which there are many testimonials; the most conspicu-