

In my treatment of the Indian place-nomenclature of the Maritime Provinces, I shall first discuss certain names of which the origin is certain in order to make use of the roots and forms thus determined for an attack upon those which are obscure. If I seem over-long in the discussion, I would remind the reader that there is in scientific literature a better quality than brevity, and that is accuracy. In expressing the sounds of words, and their roots, I have chosen, though only after much consideration, to use the ordinary and familiar sounds of the letters as pronounced in English, instead of the special alphabet now commonly used by philologists. The reason is this, that I wish my papers to be understood by all readers, and the special alphabet is intelligible only to those already versed in its use. It is this alphabet, by the way, which is used by M. Chamberlain, in his *Maliseet Vocabulary* so often cited in the following pages, and also by A. S. Gatschet, while Rand, in his *Dictionaries* and *Reader*, uses the signs commonly employed to express pronunciation in our dictionaries, and E. Jack uses, as I do, the ordinary English pronunciation.

The Indian tribes involved in this study are the Micmaes, who live along the coast of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and in the Peninsula of Nova Scotia: the Maliseets, who live along the Saint John River: the Passamaquoddies, who are merely a geographical division of the Maliseets living at Passamaquoddy Bay: and the Penobscots who live on the Penobscot River and in the vicinity. All are Algonquins speaking related dialects, which differ, however, in many details; but while the Maliseets and Penobscots differ but slightly from one another, both differ considerably from the Micmaes.

Oromocto.

LOCATION AND APPLICATION.—The name of a river in the south-central part of New Brunswick, flowing into the Saint John River below Fredericton from the southwest: also two lakes at its sources: a village at its mouth: an island near by in the Saint John: and some shoals below the island. The river is fully described and mapped, with comments on its local nomenclature, in the *Bulletin of the Natural History Society of New Brunswick*, No. XXII, 1903, 192.

The word is pronounced by residents as if spelled UR-A-MUCK'-TOE (the UR as in URN), though the country people say rather AIR-A-MUCK'-TAH.

HISTORY OF THE WORD.—It makes its earliest known appearance in a French seigniorial grant of 1684, where it occurs as LA RIVIÈRE DU KAMOUCTOU, a very obvious misprint for RAMOUCTOU (*These Transactions*, V, 1899, ii, 312). The authoritative Franquelin-de Meulles map of 1686 has the form LE RAMOUCTOU, copying no doubt the same original as the preceding document (*Op. cit.*, III, 1897, ii, 364). On an original and excellent map by Father de Rozier, of 1699, however, this river bears the name MEDUCTU (*Op. cit.*, XII, 1906, ii, 60) not, as might be supposed a bad misprint for RAMOUCTOU, but because of a cartographi-