

these changes in structure are found in gender, plural, declensions, moods, and tenses of the verb and syntax. There does not exist a tribe without some kind of grammar, laws of structure, sometimes crude, yet sufficient to reveal regularity, beauty and strength. The most savage tribes without any literature possess languages of consistent grammatical structure sufficient for all the uses of effective native oratory. No matter how low in the scale of humanity a tribe has been found, it still possesses a complete and thoroughly organized language. Languages are not the result of mere chance, but are regulated by laws. Some of our native Canadian tribes possess in their dialects vehicles for thought more expressive and richer than some of the tongues of civilized peoples. The Déné language has no single term for "to be broken," but in lieu of the single Aryan term, this American tongue has no less than one hundred particularising substitutes, not one of which could be indifferently used for the other. These are expressive of the object employed to operate the breakage, the manner in which the object was affected, and the form of the object. These more than one hundred distinct verbs can be multiplied four or five times, according as the iterative, imitative, terminative, and other forms are used, whereby the signification is changed. The Sahaptin language spoken by the Nez Percé Indians, according to Hale, surpasses the Aryan and Semitic tongues in some of its forms. Its case-distinctions are much more profoundly reasoned and accurately classified than the Aryan, the verb surpasses both the Aryan and Semitic in the variety of its forms, and the precision and nicety of its distinctions, its tenses are as completely inflectional as Sanskrit, Greek, or German, and it possesses great power of agglutination. The Cree language is a beautiful and symmetrical tongue, possessing many forms of expression not found in those spoken by civilized nations. The paradigms of the verb cover more than two hundred and forty closely printed folio pages. The Blackfoot tongue is a guttural form of speech, symmetrical and euphonious, very expressive and abundant in grammatical forms. What has been said concerning these languages can be repeated for almost any dialect spoken by an American Indian tribe. Of the Mohawk tongue Max Müller says: "To my mind, the structure of such a language as the Mohawk is quite sufficient evidence that those who worked out such a work of art were powerful reasoners and accurate classifiers," and of the Algonkin speech, Professor Whitney remarks: "There are infinite possibilities and expressiveness in such a structure; and it would only need that some native American Greek race should arise to fill it full of thought and fancy, and to put it to the uses of a noble literature, and it would be rightly admired as rich and flexible, perhaps beyond anything else that