

jugated absolutely in this way: *iehiaton*, I write; *chiehiatonc*, thou writest, *ihahiatonc*, he writes, *awahiatonc*, we write, *scwahiatonc*, you write, *attihiatonc*, they write.

The other method of conjugation may be called the reciprocal, inasmuch as the action signified by the verb terminates always on some person or thing; so that, instead of saying, as we do, in three words, "I love myself," the Hurons say only *iatenonhwe*; "I love thee," *onnonhwe*; "I love you both," *inonhwe*; "I love you" (several), *wanonhwe*, and so for the rest.

What I find most extraordinary is that there is a feminine conjugation, at least in the third person both of the singular and [84] of the plural; for we have not discovered more of it, or very little. Here is an example of it: *ihaton*, he says; *iwaton*, she says; *ihonton*, they say [masculine]; *ionton*, they say [feminine]. The principal distinction of this feminine conjugation from the masculine is the lack of the letter H, in which the masculine abounds,—perhaps to give the women to understand that there ought to be nothing rough or coarse in their words or in their manners, but that the grace and law of gentleness ought to be upon their tongues, following that rule of the Sage, *lex clementiæ in lingua ejus*. This is enough of this subject for the present, unless it be that some one may wish to hear something about their style. They use comparisons, time-words, and proverbs very often. Here is one of the most remarkable, *Tichout etodtendi*, "Behold," they say, "the fallen star," when they see some one who is fat and corpulent; for they hold that once upon a time a star fell from Heaven in the form of a fat Goose. *Aman-tes sibi somnia fingunt*.