

the footsteps of the early traders; the latter had been established more recently, but under the energetic labors of Mr. Hall, had accomplished considerable in the way of civilization and christianity for the poor savage. Among other things done by Mr. Hall, he reduced the Chippewa (or more properly, O-jeeb-wa) language to a system; and translated the New Testament and a variety of other books into their language. One of these Testaments, I had the pleasure of presenting to this Society after my return.

I have also a part of the grammar, as made by Mr. Hall, in manuscript—and I may say here what will illustrate the remarks which I shall make when speaking of him who is really the object of what I had designed to say—that the O-jeeb-wa language abounds in vowels and liquids, and is by far the most musical and richest language of which I have any knowledge. The almost endless inflections of the verb in its different forms, enables the Chippewa to express every shade of thought in one word, which would either be altogether impossible in our language, or only to be arrived at, by an awkward and uncertain circumlocution. As an evidence of this, I will state, that one of the missionaries told me that there were about one hundred and fifty forms of the regular verb in the indicative mood, present tense, first person, singular number. This might have been somewhat exaggerated; but that there is a wonderful facility in adapting the verb to the thought, I can bear witness from even the slight knowledge which I obtained of the language.

Soon after my arrival, the Indians began to assemble for payment, and in a few days several hundreds of the chiefs and braves of the nation were gathered on the Island; and finer specimens of men in their physical structure and general appearance could not be found among any people. In this respect the Chippewas are far superior to any other of the savage tribes which I have met. I cannot now enter into anything like a detail of what I learned of their general history, but the Chippewa is one of the most numerous and extended of the Indian tribes, occupying a large portion of the North