

Marx Hardy Machiavelli Joyce Austen  
Defoe Abbot Melville Montaigne Cooper Emerson Hugo  
Stoker Wilde Christie Maupassant Haggard Chesterton Molière Eliot Grimm  
Garnett Engels Byron Schiller  
Goethe Hawthorne Smith Kafka  
Cotton Dostoyevsky Hall  
Baum Henry Kipling Doyle Willis  
Leslie Dumas Flaubert Nietzsche Turgenev Balzac  
Stockton Vatsyayana Crane  
Burroughs Verne  
Curtis Tocqueville Gogol Busch  
Homer Tolstoy Whitman  
Darwin Thoreau Twain  
Potter Zola Lawrence Dickens Plato Scott  
Kant Freud Jowett Stevenson Andersen Burton Harte  
London Descartes Cervantes Wells Hesse  
Poe Aristotle Wells Voltaire Cooke  
Hale James Hastings Shakespeare Chambers Irving  
Bunner Richter Chekhov da Shaw Wodehouse  
Doré Dante Swift Pushkin Alcott  
Newton



tredition was established in 2006 by Sandra Latusseck and Soenke Schulz. Based in Hamburg, Germany, tredition offers publishing solutions to authors and publishing houses, combined with worldwide distribution of printed and digital book content. tredition is uniquely positioned to enable authors and publishing houses to create books on their own terms and without conventional manufacturing risks.

For more information please visit: [www.tredition.com](http://www.tredition.com)

## TREDITION CLASSICS

This book is part of the TREDITION CLASSICS series. The creators of this series are united by passion for literature and driven by the intention of making all public domain books available in printed format again - worldwide. Most TREDITION CLASSICS titles have been out of print and off the bookstore shelves for decades. At tredition we believe that a great book never goes out of style and that its value is eternal. Several mostly non-profit literature projects provide content to tredition. To support their good work, tredition donates a portion of the proceeds from each sold copy. As a reader of a TREDITION CLASSICS book, you support our mission to save many of the amazing works of world literature from oblivion. See all available books at [www.tredition.com](http://www.tredition.com).



## Project Gutenberg

The content for this book has been graciously provided by Project Gutenberg. Project Gutenberg is a non-profit organization founded by Michael Hart in 1971 at the University of Illinois. The mission of Project Gutenberg is simple: To encourage the creation and distribution of eBooks. Project Gutenberg is the first and largest collection of public domain eBooks.

**The Composition of Indian  
Geographical Names Illustrated  
from the Algonkin Languages**

J. Hammond (James Hammond) Trumbull

# Imprint

This book is part of TREDITION CLASSICS

Author: J. Hammond (James Hammond) Trumbull

Cover design: Buchgut, Berlin - Germany

Publisher: tredition GmbH, Hamburg - Germany

ISBN: 978-3-8424-8653-9

[www.tredition.com](http://www.tredition.com)

[www.tredition.de](http://www.tredition.de)

Copyright:

The content of this book is sourced from the public domain.

The intention of the TREDITION CLASSICS series is to make world literature in the public domain available in printed format. Literary enthusiasts and organizations, such as Project Gutenberg, worldwide have scanned and digitally edited the original texts. tredition has subsequently formatted and redesigned the content into a modern reading layout. Therefore, we cannot guarantee the exact reproduction of the original format of a particular historic edition. Please also note that no modifications have been made to the spelling, therefore it may differ from the orthography used today.

## **CONTENTS**

**On the Composition of Indian Geographical Names**

**Indian Names [Index]**

**Footnotes**



# ON THE COMPOSITION OF

## INDIAN GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES.

A proper name has been defined to be "a mere mark put upon an individual, and of which it is the characteristic property *to be destitute of meaning*." [1] If we accept this definition, it follows that there are no proper names in the aboriginal languages of America. Every Indian synthesis—names of persons and places not excepted—must "preserve the consciousness of its roots," and must not only have a meaning but be so framed as to convey that meaning with precision, to all who speak the language to which it belongs. Whenever, by phonetic corruption or by change of circumstance, it loses its self-interpreting or self-defining power, it must be discarded from the language. "It requires tradition, society, and literature to maintain forms which can no longer be analyzed at once." [2] In our own language, such forms may hold their places by prescriptive right or force of custom, and names absolutely unmeaning, or applied without regard to their original meaning, are accepted by common consent as the distinguishing marks of persons and places. We call a man William or Charles, Jones or Brown,—or a town, New Lebanon, Cincinnati, Baton Rouge, or Big Bethel—just as we put a number on a policeman's badge or on a post-office box, or a trademark on an article of merchandise; and the number and the mark are as truly and in nearly the same sense proper names as the others are.

[Pg 4]

Not that personal or proper names, in any language, were *originally* mere arbitrary sounds, devoid of meaning. The first James or the first Brown could, doubtless, have given as good a reason for his name as the first Abraham. But changes of language and lapse of time made the names independent of the reasons, and took from them all their significance. Patrick is not now, *eo nomine*, a 'patrician;' Bridget is not necessarily 'strong' or 'bright;' and in the name of Mary, hallowed by its associations, only the etymologist can detect the primitive 'bitterness.' Boston is no longer 'St. Botolph's Town;' there is no 'Castle of the inhabitants of Hwicca' (*Hwic-wara-*

*ceaster*) to be seen at Worcester; and Hartford is neither 'the ford of harts,' (which the city seal has made it,) nor 'the red ford,' which its name once indicated.

In the same way, many Indian geographical names, after their adoption by Anglo-American colonists, became unmeaning sounds. Their original character was lost by their transfer to a foreign tongue. Nearly all have suffered some mutilation or change of form. In many instances, hardly a trace of true original can be detected in the modern name. Some have been separated from the localities to which they belonged, and assigned to others to which they are etymologically inappropriate. A mountain receives the name of a river; a bay, that of a cape or a peninsula; a tract of land, that of a rock or a waterfall. And so 'Massachusetts' and 'Connecticut' and 'Narragansett' have come to be *proper names*, as truly as 'Boston' and 'Hartford' are in their cis-Atlantic appropriation.

The Indian languages tolerated no such 'mere marks.' Every name *described* the locality to which it was affixed. The description was sometimes *topographical*; sometimes *historical*, preserving the memory of a battle, a feast, the dwelling-place of a great sachem, or the like; sometimes it indicated one of the *natural products* of the place, or the *animals* which resorted to it; occasionally, its *position* or *direction* from a place previously known, or from the territory of the [Pg 5] nation by which the name was given,—as for example, 'the land on the other side of the river,' 'behind the mountain,' 'the east land,' 'the half-way place,' &c. The same name might be, in fact it very often was, given to more places than one; but these must not be so near together that mistakes or doubts could be occasioned by the repetition. With this precaution, there was no reason why there might not be as many 'Great Rivers,' 'Bends,' 'Forks,' and 'Water-fall places' as there are Washingtons, Franklins, Unions, and Fairplays in the list of American post-offices.

With few exceptions, the structure of these names is simple. Nearly all may be referred to one of three classes:

I. Those formed by the union of two elements, which we will call *adjectival* and *substantival*; [3] with or without a locative suffix or post-position meaning 'at,' 'in,' 'by,' 'near,' &c.

II. Those which have a single element, the *substantival* or 'ground-word,' with its locative suffix.

III. Those formed from verbs, as participials or verbal nouns, denoting a *place where* the action of the verb is performed. To this class belong, for example, such names as *Mushauwomuk* (Boston), 'where there is going-by-boat,' *i.e.*, a ferry, or canoe-crossing. Most of these names, however, may be shown by rigid analysis to belong to one of the two preceding classes, which comprise at least nine-tenths of all Algonkin local names which have been preserved.

The examples I shall give of these three classes, will be taken from Algonkin languages; chiefly from the Massachu [Pg 6] setts or Natick (which was substantially the same as that spoken by the Narragansetts and Connecticut Indians), the Abnaki, the Lenni-Lenâpe or Delaware, the Chippewa or Ojibway, and the Knisteno or Cree. [4]

Of names of the *first class*, in central and southern New England, some of the more common substantival components or 'ground-words' are those which denote *Land* or *Country*, *River*, *Water*, *Lake* or *Pond*, *Fishing-place*, *Rock*, *Mountain*, *Inclosure*, and *Island*.

1. The Massachusetts *ohke* (Narr. *aûke*; Delaware, *hacki*; Chip. *ah-ke*; Abnaki, '*ki*;) signifies land, and in local names, place or country. The final vowel is sometimes lost in composition. With the locative suffix, it becomes *ohkit* (Del. *hacking*; Chip. *ahki<sup>n</sup>* ; Abn. *kik*;) *at* or *in* a place or country.

To the Narragansetts proper, the country east of Narragansett Bay and Providence River was *wapan-auke*, 'east land;' and its people were called by the Dutch explorers, *Wapenokis*, and by the English, *Wampanoags*. The tribes of the upper St. Lawrence taught the French, and tribes south of the Pis [Pg 7] cataqua taught the English, to give the name of East-landers—*Abenauquis*, or *Abinakis*—to the Indians of Maine. The country of the Delawares was 'east land,' *Wapanachki*, to Algonkin nations of the west.

The '*Chawwonock*,' or '*Chawonocke*,' of Capt. John Smith,—on what is now known as Chowan River, in Virginia and North Carolina,—was, to the Powhattans and other Virginian tribes, the 'south country,' or *sowan-ohke*, as Eliot wrote it, in Gen. xxiv. 62.

With the adjectival *sucki*, 'dark-colored,' 'blackish,' we have the aboriginal name of the South Meadow in Hartford,—*sucki-ohke*, (written *Sicaiook*, *Suckiaug*, &c.), 'black earth.'

*Wuskowhanan-auk-it*, 'at the pigeon country,' was the name (as given by Roger Williams) of a "place where these fowl breed abundantly,"—in the northern part of the Nipmuck country (now in Worcester county, Mass.).

'*Kiskatamenakook*,' the name of a brook (but originally, of some locality near the brook) in Catskill, N.Y., [5] is *kiskato-minak-auke*, 'place of thin-shelled nuts' (or shag-bark hickory nuts).

2. River. *Seip* or *sepu* (Del. *sipo*; Chip. *sēpē*; Abn. *sip[oo]*;) the Algonkin word for 'river' is derived from a root that means 'stretched out,' 'extended,' 'become long,' and corresponds nearly to the English 'stream.' This word rarely, if ever, enters into the composition of local names, and, so far as I know, it does not make a part of the name of any river in New England. *Mississippi* is *missi-sipu*, 'great river;' *Kitchi-sipi*, 'chief river' or 'greatest river,' was the Montagnais name of the St. Lawrence; [6] and *Miste-shipu* is their modern name for the Moise or 'Great River' which flows from the lakes of the Labrador peninsula into the Gulf of St. Lawrence. [7]

[Pg 8]

Near the Atlantic seaboard, the most common substantival components of river names are (1) *-tuk* and (2) *-hanne*, *-han*, or *-huan*. Neither of these is an independent word. They are inseparable nouns-generic, or generic affixes.

*-Tuk* (Abn. *-teg[oo]é*; Del. *-ittuk*;) denotes a river whose waters are driven *in waves*, by tides or wind. It is found in names of tidal rivers and estuaries; less frequently, in names of *broad and deep* streams, not affected by tides. With the adjectival *missi*, 'great,' it forms *missi-tuk*,—now written *Mystic*,—the name of 'the great river' of Boston bay, and of another wide-mouthed tidal river in the Pequot country, which now divides the towns of Stonington and Groton.

Near the eastern boundary of the Pequot country, was the river which the Narragansetts called *Paquat-tuk*, sometimes written

*Paquetock*, now *Pawcatuck*, 'Pequot river,'—the present eastern boundary of Connecticut. Another adjectival prefix, *pohki* or *pahke*, 'pure,' 'clear,' found in the name of several tidal streams, is hardly distinguishable from the former, in the modern forms of *Pacatock*, *Paucatuck*, &c.

*Quinni-tuk* is the 'long tidal-river.' With the locative affix, *Quinni-tuk-ut*, 'on long river,'—now *Connecticut*,—was the name of the valley, or lands both sides of the river. In one early deed (1636), I find the name written *Quinetucquet*; in another, of the same year, *Quenticutt*. Roger Williams (1643) has *Qunnihticut*, and calls the Indians of this region *Quintik-óock*, i.e. 'the long river people.' The *c* in the second syllable of the modern name has no business there, and it is difficult to find a reason for its intrusion.

'*Lenapewihittuck*' was the Delaware name of 'the river of the Lenape,' and '*Mohicannittuck*,' of 'the river of the Mohicans' (Hudson River). [8]

Of *Pawtucket* and *Pawtuxet*, the composition is less obvious; but we have reliable Indian testimony that these names mean, respectively, 'at the falls' and 'at the little falls.' [Pg 9] Pequot and Narragansett interpreters, in 1679, declared that Blackstone's River, was "called in Indian *Pautuck* (which signifies, a Fall), because there the fresh water falls into the salt water." [9] So, the upper falls of the Quinebaug river (at Danielsonville, Conn.) were called "*Powntuck*, which is a general name for all Falls," as Indians of that region testified. [10] There was another *Pautucket*, 'at the falls' of the Merrimac (now Lowell); and another on Westfield River, Mass. *Pawtuxet*, i.e. *pau't-tuk-es-it*, is the regularly formed diminutive of *paut-tuk-it*. The village of *Pawtuxet*, four miles south of Providence, R.I., is "at the little falls" of the river to which their name has been transferred. The first settlers of Plymouth were informed by Samoset, that the place which they had chosen for their plantation was called '*Patuxet*,'—probably because of some 'little falls' on Town Brook. [11] There was another '*Pautuxet*,' or '*Powtuxet*,' on the Quinebaug, at the lower falls; and a river '*Patuxet*' (*Patuxent*), in Maryland. The same name is ingeniously disguised by Campanius, as '*Poetquessing*,' which he mentions as one of the principal towns of the Indians on the Delaware, just below the lower falls of that river at Trenton; and

'Poutaxat' was understood by the Swedes to be the Indian name both of the river and bay. [12] The adjectival *pawt-* or *pauat-* seems to be derived from a root meaning 'to make a loud noise.' It is found in many, perhaps in all Algonkin languages. '*Pawating*,' as Schoolcraft wrote it, was the Chippewa name of the Sault Ste. Marie, or Falls of St. Mary's River,—pronounced *poú-at-ing'*, or *pau-at-u'*, the last syllable representing the locative affix,— "at the Falls." [Pg 10] The same name is found in Virginia, under a disguise which has hitherto prevented its recognition. Capt. John Smith informs us that the "place of which their great Emperor taketh his name" of *Powhatan*, or *Pawatan*, was near "the Falls" of James River, [13] where is now the city of Richmond. 'Powatan' is *pauat-hanne*, or 'falls on a rapid stream.'

*Acáwmé* or *Ogkomé* (Chip. *agami*; Abn. *aga<sup>m</sup>mi*; Del. *achgameu*;) means 'on the other side,' 'over against,' 'beyond.' As an adjectival, it is found in *Acawm-auké*, the modern 'Accomac,' a peninsula east of Chesapeake Bay, which was 'other-side land' to the Powhatans of Virginia. The site of Plymouth, Mass., was called 'Accomack' by Capt. John Smith,—a name given not by the Indians who occupied it but by those, probably, who lived farther north, 'on the other side' of Plymouth Bay. The countries of Europe were called 'other-side lands,'—Narr. *acaawmen-óaki*; Abn. *aga<sup>m</sup>men-[oo]ki*. With *-tuk*, it forms *acaawmen-tuk* (Abn. *aga<sup>m</sup>men-teg[oo]*), 'other-side river,' or, its diminutive, *acaawmen-tuk-es* (Abn. *aga<sup>m</sup>men-teg[oo]éss[oo]*), 'the small other-side river,'—a name first given (as *Agamenticus* or *Accomenticus*) to York, Me., from the 'small tidal-river beyond' the Piscataqua, on which that town was planted.

*Peske-tuk* (Abn. *peské-teg[oo]é*) denotes a 'divided river,' or a river which another *cleaves*. It is not generally (if ever) applied to one of the 'forks' which unite to form the main stream, but to some considerable tributary received by the main stream, or to the division of the stream by some obstacle, near its mouth, which makes of it a 'double river.' The primary meaning of the (adjectival) root is 'to divide in two,' and the secondary, 'to split,' 'to divide *forcibly*, or *abruptly*.' These shades of meaning are not likely to be detected under the disguises in which river-names come down [Pg 11] to our time. Râle translates *ne-peské*, "je vas dans le chemin qui en coupe un autre:" *peskahak[oo]n*, "branche."

*Piscataqua*, *Pascataqua*, &c., represent the Abn. *peské-teg[oo]é*, 'divided tidal-river.' The word for 'place' (*ohke*, Abn. 'ki,) being added, gives the form *Piscataquak* or *-quog*. There is another *Piscataway*, in New Jersey,—not far below the junction of the north and south branches of the Raritan,—and a *Piscataway* river in Maryland, which empties into the Potomac; a *Piscataquog* river, tributary to the Merrimac, in New Hampshire; a *Piscataquis* (diminutive) in Maine, which empties into the Penobscot. *Pasquotank*, the name of an arm of Albemarle Sound and of a small river which flows into it, in North Carolina, has probably the same origin.

The adjectival *peské*, or *piské*, is found in many other compound names besides those which are formed with *-tuk* or *-hanne*: as in *Pascoag*, for *peské-auké*, in Burrilville, R.I., 'the dividing place' of two branches of Blackstone's River; and *Pesquamscot*, in South Kingston, R.I., which (if the name is rightly given) is "at the divided (or cleft) rock,"—*peské-ompsk-ut*,—perhaps some ancient land-mark, on or near the margin of Worden's Pond.

*Nôeu-tuk* (*Nôahtuk*, Eliot), 'in the middle of the river,' may be, as Mr. Judd [14] and others have supposed, the name which has been variously corrupted to Norwottock, Nonotuck, Noatucke, Nawot-tok, &c. If so, it probably belonged, originally to one of the necks or peninsulas of meadow, near Northampton,—such as that at Hockanum, which, by a change in the course of the river at that point, has now become an island.

*Tetiquet* or *Titicut*, which passes for the Indian name of Taunton, and of a fishing place on Taunton River in the north-west part of Middleborough, Mass., shows how effectually such names may be disguised by phonetic corruption and mutilation. *Kehte-tuk-ut* (or as Eliot wrote it in Genesis xv. 18, *Kehteihtukqut*) means 'on the great river.' In the [Pg 12] Plymouth Colony Records we find the forms '*Cauteeticutt*' and '*Coteticutt*,' and elsewhere, *Kehtehticut*,—the latter, in 1698, as the name of a place on the great river, "between Taunton and Bridgewater." Hence, '*Teghtacutt*,' '*Teightaquid*,' '*Tetiquet*,' &c. [15]

(2). The other substantival component of river-names, *-hanne* or *-han* (Abn. *-ts[oo]a<sup>n</sup>n* or *-ta<sup>n</sup>n*; Mass. *-tchuan*;) denotes 'a rapid stream' or 'current;' primarily, 'flowing water.' In the Massachusetts and

Abnaki, it occurs in such compounds as *anu-tchuan* (Abn. *ari'ts[oo]a<sup>n</sup>n*), 'it over-flows:' *kussi-tchuan* (Abn. *kesi'ts[oo]a<sup>n</sup>n*), 'it swift flows,' &c.

In Pennsylvania and Virginia, where the streams which rise in the highlands flow down rapidly descending slopes, *-hanné* is more common than *-tuk* or *sepu* in river names. *Keht-hanné* (*kittan*, Zeisb.; *kithanne*, Hkw.) was a name given to the Delaware River as 'the principal or greatest stream' of that region: and by the western Delawares, to the Ohio. [16] With the locative termination, *Kittanning* (Penn.) is a place 'on the greatest stream.' The Schuylkill was *Ganshow-hanné*, 'noisy stream;' the Lackawanna, *Lechau-hanné*, 'forked stream' or 'stream that forks:' [17] with affix, *Lechauhannak* or *Lechawahannak*, 'at the river-fork,'—for which Hendrick Aupamut, a Muhhekan, wrote (with dialectic exchange of *n* for Delaware *l*) '*Naukhuwahnauk*,' 'The Forks' of the Miami. [18] The same name is found in New England, disguised as Newichawanock, Nuchawanack, &c., as near Berwick, Me., 'at the fork' or confluence of Coheco and Salmon Fall rivers,—the '*Neghechewanck*' of Wood's Map (1634). *Powhatan*, for *Pauat-hanne*, 'at the Falls on a rapid stream,' has been previously noticed.

*Alleghany*, or as some prefer to write it, *Allegheny*,—the Algonkin name of the Ohio River, but now restricted to one [Pg 13] of its branches,—is probably (Delaware) *welhik-hanné* or *[oo]lik-hanné*, 'the best (or, the fairest) river.' *Welhik* (as Zeisberger wrote it) [19] is the inanimate form of the adjectival, meaning 'best,' 'most beautiful.' In his Vocabulary, Zeisberger gave this synthesis, with slight change of orthography, as "*Wulach'neü*" [or *[oo]lakhanne[oo]*, as Eliot would have written it,] with the free translation, "*a fine River, without Falls.*" The name was indeed more likely to belong to rivers 'without falls' or other obstruction to the passage of canoes, but its literal meaning is, as its composition shows, "best rapid-stream," or "finest rapid-stream;" "La Belle Riviere" of the French, and the *Oue-yo'* or *O hee' yo Gā-hun'-dā*, "good river" or "the beautiful river," of the Senecas. [20] For this translation of the name we have very respectable authority,—that of Christian Frederick Post, a Moravian of Pennsylvania, who lived seventeen years with the Muhhekan Indians and was twice married among them, and whose knowledge of the Indian languages enabled him to render important services to the colo-

ny, as a negotiator with the Delawares and Shawanese of the Ohio, in the French war. In his "Journal from Philadelphia to the Ohio" in 1758, [21] after mention of the 'Alleghenny' river, he says: "The *Ohio*, as it is called by the Sennecas. *Alleghenny* is the name of the same river in the Delaware language. *Both words signify the fine or fair river.*" La Metairie, the notary of La Salle's expedition, "calls the Ohio, the *Olighinsipou*, or *Aleghin*; evidently an Algonkin name," — as Dr. Shea remarks. [22] Hecke [Pg 14] welder says that the Delawares "still call the Allegany (Ohio) river, *Alligéwi Sipu*," — "the river of the *Alligewi*" as he chooses to translate it. In one form, we have *wulik-hannésipu*, 'best rapid-stream long-river;' in the other, *wuliké-sipu*, 'best long-river.' Heckewelder's derivation of the name, on the authority of a Delaware legend, from the mythic 'Alligewi' or 'Talligewi,' — "a race of Indians said to have once inhabited that country," who, after great battles fought in pre-historic times, were driven from it by the all-conquering Delawares, [23] — is of no value, unless supported by other testimony. The identification of *Alleghany* with the Seneca "*De o' na gä no*, cold water" [or, cold spring, [24]] proposed by a writer in the *Historical Magazine* (vol. iv. p. 184), though not apparent at first sight, might deserve consideration if there were any reason for believing the name of the river to be of Iroquois origin, — if it were probable that an Iroquois name would have been adopted by Algonkin nations, — or, if the word for 'water' or 'spring' could be made, in any American language, the substantival component of a *river* name.

From the river, the name appears to have been transferred by the English to a range of the "Endless Mountains."

3. Nippe, Nipi (= *n'pi*; Narr. *nip*; Muhh. *nup*; Abn. and Chip. *nebi*; Del. *m'bi*;) and its diminutives, *nippisse* and *nips*, were employed in compound names to denote Water, generally, without characterizing it as 'swift flowing,' 'wave moved,' 'tidal,' or 'standing:' as, for example, in the name of a part of a river, where the stream widening with diminished current becomes lake-like, or of a stretch [Pg 15] of tide-water inland, forming a bay or cove at a river's mouth. By the northern Algonkins, it appears to have been used for 'lake,' as in the name of *Missi-nippi* or *Missinabe* lake ('great water'), and in

that of Lake *Nippissing*, which has the locative affix, *nippis-ing*, 'at the small lake' north-east of the greater Lake Huron, which gave a name to the nation of 'Nipissings,' or as the French called them, 'Nipissiriniens,'—according to Charlevoix, the true Algonkins.

*Quinnipiack*, regarded as the Indian name of New Haven,—also written *Quinnypiock*, *Quinopiocke*, *Quillipiack*, &c., and by President Stiles [25] (on the authority of an Indian of East Haven) *Quinnepyooghq*,—is, probably, 'long water place,' *quinni-nippe-ohke*, or *quin-nipi-ohke*. *Kennebec* would seem to be another form of the same name, from the Abnaki, *k[oo]né-be-ki*, were it not that Râle wrote, [26] as the name of the river, '*Aghenibékki*'—suggesting a different adjectival. But Biard, in the *Relation de la Nouvelle-France* of 1611, has '*Kinibequi*,' Champlain, *Quinebequy*, and Vimont, in 1640, '*Quinibequi*,' so that we are justified in regarding the name as the probable equivalent of *Quinni-pi-ohke*.

*Win-nippe-sauki* (Winnipiseogee) will be noticed hereafter.

4. -Paug, -pog, -bog, (Abn. *-béga* or *-bégat*; Del. *-pécat*;) an inseparable generic, denoting 'water at rest,' 'standing water,' is the substantial component of names of small lakes and ponds, throughout New England. [27] Some of the most common of these names are,—

*Massa-paug*, 'great pond,'—which appears in a great variety of modern forms, as *Mashapaug*, *Mashpaug*, *Massapogue*, [Pg 16] *Massapog*, &c. A pond in Cranston, near Providence, R.I.; another in Warwick, in the same State; 'Alexander's Lake,' in Killingly; 'Gardiner's Lake,' in Salem, Bozrah and Montville; 'Tyler Pond,' in Goshen; ponds in Sharon, Groton, and Lunenburg, Mass., were each of them the 'Massapaug' or 'great pond' of its vicinity.

*Quinni-paug*, 'long pond.' One in Killingly, gave a name to *Quinebaug* River and the 'Quinebaug country.' Endicott, in 1651, wrote this name 'Qunnubbágge' (3 Mass. Hist. Coll., iv. 191). "Quinepox-et," the name of a pond and small river in Princeton, Mass., appears to be a corruption of the diminutive with the locative affix; *Quinni-paug-es-it*, 'at the little long pond.'

*Wongun-paug*, 'crooked (or bent) pond.' There is one of the name in Coventry, Conn. Written, 'Wangunbog,' 'Wungumbaug,' &c.

*Petuhkqui-paug*, 'round pond,' now called 'Dumpling Pond,' in Greenwich, Conn., gave a name to a plain and brook in that town, and, occasionally, to the plantation settled there, sometimes written 'Petuckquapock.'

*Nunni-paug*, 'fresh pond.' One in Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard, gave a name (Nunnepoag) to an Indian village near it. Eliot wrote *nunnipog*, for 'fresh water,' in James iii. 12.

*Sonki-paug* or *so<sup>o</sup>ki-paug*, 'cool pond.' (*Sonkipog*, 'cold water,' Eliot.) Egunk-sonkipaug, or 'the cool pond (spring) of Egunk' hill in Sterling, Conn., is named in Chandler's Survey of the Mohegan country, as one of the east bounds.

*Pahke-paug*, 'clear pond' or 'pure water pond.' This name occurs in various forms, as 'Pahcupog,' a pond near Westerly, R.I.; [28] 'Pauquepaug,' transferred from a pond to a brook in Kent and New Milford; 'Paquabaug,' near Shepaug River, in Roxbury, &c. 'Pequabuck' river, in Bristol and Farmington, appears to derive its name from some 'clear pond,'—perhaps the one between Bristol and Plymouth.

[Pg 17]

Another noun-generic that denotes 'lake' or 'fresh water at rest,' is found in many Abnaki, northern Algonkin and Chippewa names, but not, perhaps, in Massachusetts or Connecticut. This is the Algonkin *-gāmi*, *-gōmi*, or *-gummee*. *Kitchi-gami* or '*Kehegummee*,' the Chippewa name of Lake Superior, is 'the greatest, or chief lake.' *Caucomgomoc*, in Maine, is the Abn. *kaäkou-gami-k*, 'at Big-Gull lake.' *Temi-gami*, 'deep lake,' discharges its waters into Ottawa River, in Canada; *Kinou-gami*, now Kenocami, 'long lake,' into the Saguenay, at Chicoutimi.

There is a *Mitchi-gami* or (as sometimes written) *machi-gummi*, 'large lake,' in northern Wisconsin, and the river which flows from it has received the same name, with the locative suffix, '*Machigāmig*' (for *mitchi-gaming*). A branch of this river is now called 'Fence River' from a *mitchihikan* or *mitchikan*, a 'wooden fence' constructed near its banks, by the Indians, for catching deer. [29] Father Allouez describes, in the 'Relation' for 1670 (p. 96), a sort of 'fence' or weir which the Indians had built across Fox River, for taking sturgeon

&c., and which they called '*Mitihikan*;' and shortly after, he mentions the destruction, by the Iroquois, of a village of Outagamis (Fox Indians) near his mission station, called *Machihigan-ing*, ['at the *mitchihi-kan*, or weir?'] on the 'Lake of the Illinois,' now *Michigan*. Father Dablon, in the next year's Relation, calls this lake '*Mitchiganons*.' Perhaps there was some confusion between the names of the 'weir' and the 'great lake,' and 'Michigan' appears to have been adopted as a kind of compromise between the two. If so, this modern form of the name is corrupt in more senses than one. [30]

[Pg 18]

5. -amaug, denoting 'a fishing place' (Abn. *a<sup>m</sup>ma<sup>g</sup>an*, 'on pêche là,') is derived from the root *âm* or *âma*, signifying 'to take by the mouth;' whence, *âm-aiï*, 'he fishes with hook and line,' and Del. *âman*, a fish-hook. *Wonkemaug* for *wongun-amaug*, 'crooked fishing-place,' between Warren and New Preston, in Litchfield county, is now 'Raumaug Lake.' *Ouschank-amaug*, in East Windsor, was perhaps the 'eel fishing-place.' The lake in Worcester, *Quansigamaug*, *Quansigamug*, &c., and now *Quinsigamond*, was 'the pickerel fishing-place,' *qunnosuog-amaug*.

6. Rock. In composition, -pisk or -psk (Abn. *pesk[oo]*; Cree, -*pisk*; Chip. -*bik*;) denotes *hard* or *flint-like* rock; [31] -ompsk or o<sup>h</sup>bsk, and, by phonetic corruption, -msk, (from *ompaé*, 'upright,' and -*pisk*,) a 'standing rock.' As a substantival component of local names, -ompsk and, with the locative affix, -ompskut, are found in such names as—

*Petukqui-ompskut*, corrupted to *Pettiquamscut*, 'at the round rock.' Such a rock, on the east side of Narrow River, north-east from Tower Hill Church in South Kingston, R.I., was one of the bound marks of, and gave a name to, the "Pettiquamscut purchase" in the Narragansett country.

*Wanashqui-ompskut* (*wanashquompskut*, Ezekiel xxvi. 14), 'at the top of the rock,' or at 'the point of rock.' *Wonnesquam*, *Annis Squam*, and *Squam*, near Cape Ann, are perhaps corrupt forms of the name of some 'rock summit' or 'point of rock' thereabouts. *Winnesquamsaukit* (for *wanashqui-ompsk-ohk-it*?) near Exeter Falls, N.H., has been trans-

formed to *Swampscote* and *Squamscot*. The name of Swampscot or Swampscot, formerly part of Lynn, Mass., has a different meaning. It is from *m'squi-ompsk*, 'Red Rock' (the modern name), near the north end of Long Beach, which [Pg 19] was perhaps "The clifte" mentioned as one of the bounds of Mr. Humfrey's Swampscot farm, laid out in 1638. [32] *M'squompskut* means 'at the red rock.' The sound of the initial *m* was easily lost to English ears. [33]

*Penobscot*, a corruption of the Abnaki *pa<sup>n</sup>na[oo]a<sup>n</sup>bskek*, was originally the name of a locality on the river so called by the English. Mr. Moses Greenleaf, in a letter to Dr. Morse in 1823, wrote '*Pe noom' ske ook*' as the Indian name of Old Town Falls, "whence the English name of the River, which would have been better, *Penobscook*." He gave, as the meaning of this name, "Rocky Falls." The St. Francis Indians told Thoreau, that it means "Rocky River." [34] 'At the fall of the rock' or 'at the descending rock' is a more nearly exact translation. The first syllable, *pen-* (Abn. *pa<sup>n</sup>na*) represents a root meaning 'to fall from a height,'—as in *pa<sup>n</sup>n-tek[oo]*, 'fall of a river' or 'rapids;' *pena<sup>n</sup>-ki*, 'fall of land,' the descent or downward slope of a mountain, &c.

*Keht-ompskqut*, or 'Ketumpscut' as it was formerly written, [35]—'at the greatest rock,'—is corrupted to *Catumb*, the name of a reef off the west end of Fisher's Island.

*Tomheganomset* [36]—corrupted finally to 'Higganum,' the name of a brook and parish in the north-east part of Haddam,—appears to have been, originally, the designation of a locality from which the Indians procured stone suitable for making axes,—*tomhegun-ompskut*, 'at the tomahawk rock.' In 'Higganompos,' as the name was sometimes written, without the locative affix, we have less difficulty in recognizing the substantival *-ompsk*.

Qussuk, another word for 'rock' or 'stone,' used by Eliot and Roger Williams, is not often—perhaps never found in local names. *Has-sun* or *Assun* (Chip. *assin'*; Del. *achsin*;) [Pg 20] appears in New England names only as an adjectival (*assuné*, *assini*, 'stony'), but farther north, it occasionally occurs as the substantival component of such names as *Mistassinni*, 'the Great Stone,' which gives its name to a lake in British America, to a tribe of Indians, and to a river that flows into St. John's Lake. [37]

7. Wadchu (in composition, -adchu) means, always, 'mountain' or 'hill.' In *Wachusset*, we have it, with the locative affix *-set*, 'near' or 'in the vicinity of the mountain,'—a name which has been transferred to the mountain itself. With the adjectival *massa*, 'great,' is formed *mass-adchu-set*, 'near the great mountain,' or 'great hill country,'—now, *Massachusetts*.

'*Kunckquachu*' and '*Quunkwattchu*,' mentioned in the deeds of Hadley purchase, in 1658, [38] are forms of *qunuw<sup>h</sup>kqu-adchu*, 'high mountain,'—afterwards belittled as 'Mount Toby.'

'*Kearsarge*,' the modern name of two well-known mountains in New Hampshire, disguises *k[oo]wass-adchu*, 'pine mountain.' On Holland's Map, published in 1784, the southern Kearsarge (in Merrimack county) is marked "Kyarsarga Mountain; by the Indians, *Cowissewaschook*." [39] In this form,—which the termination *ok* (for *ohke*, *auke*, 'land,') shows to belong to the *region*, not exclusively to the mountain itself,—the analysis becomes more easy. The meaning of the adjectival is perhaps not quite certain. *K[oo]wa* (Abn. *k[oo]ê*) 'a pine tree,' with its diminutive, *k[oo]wasse*, is a derivative,—from a root which means 'sharp,' 'pointed.' It is *possible*, that in this synthesis, the root preserves its primary signification, and that 'Kearsarge' is the 'pointed' or 'peaked mountain.'

*Mauch Chunk* (Penn.) is from Del. *machk*, 'bear' and *wachtschunk*, 'at, or on, the mountain,'—according to Heckewelder, who writes '*Machkschúnk*,' or the Delaware name of 'the bear's mountain.' [Pg 21]

In the Abnaki and some other Algonkin dialects, the substantival component of mountain names is *-ádené*,—an inseparable noun-generic. *Katahdin* (pronounced *Ktaadn* by the Indians of Maine), Abn. *Ket-ádené*, 'the greatest (or chief) mountain,' is the equivalent of '*Kittatinny*,' the name of a ridge of the Alleghanies, in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

8. -komuk or komako (Del. *-kamik*, *-kamiké*; Abn. *-kamighe*; Cree, *-gómnik*; Powhatan, *-comaco*;) cannot be exactly translated by any one English word. It denotes 'place,' in the sense of *enclosed*, *limited* or