

55. I'NITA'TA'-USA'NA

I'nita'ta'-usä'na,
 I'nita'ta'-usä'na.
 Hä'tini'tubibä' hu'hu,
 Hä'tini'tubibä' hu'hu.
 Hä'tina'ha'wa'bä hu'hu,
 Hä'tina'ha'wa'bä hu'hu.

Translation

Stand ready,
 Stand ready.
 (So that when) the crow calls you,
 (So that when) the crow calls you.
 You will see him,
 You will see him.

This song was composed by Little Raven, one of the delegation of seven from the southern Arapaho and Cheyenne which visited the messiah in Nevada in August, 1891. It is a message to the believers to be ready for the near coming of the new earth. The first line is sometimes sung *I'nita'ta-u'sä-hu'na*.

56. WA'WÄTHÄ'BI

Nä'nisa'na-ü', nä'nisa'na-ü',
 Wa'wäthä'bichä'chini'nabä'nagu'wa-u'i'naga'thi—He'e'ye'!
 Häthi'na ne'nahu',
 Häthi'na ne'nahu'.

Translation

My children, my children,
 I have given you magpie feathers again to wear on your heads—*He'e'ye'!*
 Thus says our mother,
 Thus says our mother.

This song affords a good specimen of the possibilities of Indian word building. The second word might serve as a companion piece to Mark Twain's picture of a complete word in German. It consists of seventeen syllables, all so interwoven to complete the sense of the word sentence that no part can be separated from the rest without destroying the whole. The verbal part proper indicates that "I have given you (plural) a headdress again." The final syllables, *wa-u'i-naga'thi*, show that the headdress consists of the tail feathers (*wagathi*) of the magpie (*wa-u-i*). The syllable *cha* implies repetition or return of action, this being probably not the first time that the messiah had given magpie feathers to his visitors.

The magpie (*Pica hudsonica* or *mittalii*) of the Rocky mountains and Sierra Nevada and the intermediate region of Nevada and Utah is perhaps the most conspicuous bird in the Paiute country. It bears a general resemblance to a crow or blackbird, being about the size