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SOCIETY.
VOL. VI. TEN'A TEXTS AND
TALES FROM ANVIK, ALASKA**

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JOHN W. CHAPMAN

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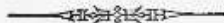
TEN'A TEXTS AND TALES

FROM ANVIK, ALASKA

BY

JOHN W. CHAPMAN

With Vocabulary by PLINY EARLE GODDARD



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INTRODUCTION.

THE legends in this collection are from Anvik, Alaska, on the Lower Yukon, and from the immediate vicinity. The dialect in which they are written is spoken at Anvik and at Koserefsky, on the Yukon, and at the villages on the Lower Innoko from Shageluk to Koserefsky. It is also spoken, with very little modification, on the Kuskokwim River, from a village just below Kolmakof, to the great eastward bend of the Kuskokwim, at a village near the mouth of the Tokatna. In the Innoko villages north of the village marked Shageluk on the Government maps, the dialect changes to an approximation to that in use at Nulato, and is more difficult for a beginner in the Anvik dialect to understand than the dialect in use on the Kuskokwim. The name "Ten'a" is here applied to this language, for the reason that it has been used by the Rev. Julius Jetté in connection with the Nulato people, in a series of excellent articles published by the Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, beginning with the year 1907. In the Anvik dialect, the name appears as "Denna," and means MAN.

No attempt is here made to deal with the grammatical structure of the language. The legends must be taken for what they are; i.e., an attempt to furnish a working basis for the study of the dialect, by means of a phonetic representation of these legends, taken down from the lips

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