

tinations remind us of the employment in the Sanscrit of the auxiliary verbs *as* and *bhu* (*asti* and *bhavati*\*); the Latin, of *es* and *fu*, or *fus*;† the Biscayan, of *izan*, *ucan*, and *equin*. There are certain points in which idioms the most dissimilar concur one with another. That which is common in the intellectual organization of man is reflected in the general structure of language; and every idiom, however barbarous it may appear, discloses a regulating principle which has presided at its formation.

The plural, in Tamanac, is indicated in seven different ways, according to the termination of the substantive, or according as it designates an animate or inanimate object.‡ In Chayma the plural is formed as in Caribbee, in *on*; *teure*, 'himself,' *teurecon*, 'themselves;' *tanorocon*, 'those here;' *montaonocon*, 'those below,' supposing that the interlocutor is speaking of a place where he was himself present; *mijonocon*, 'those below,' supposing he speaks of a place where he was not present. The Chaymas have also the Castilian adverbs *aquí* and *allá*, shades of difference which can be expressed only by periphrasis, in the idioms of Germanic and Latin origin.

Some Indians, who were acquainted with Spanish, assured us, that *zis* signified not only the sun, but also the Deity. This appeared to me the more extraordinary, as among all other American nations we find distinct words for God and the sun. The Carib does not confound *Tamoussicabo*, 'the Ancient of Heaven,' with *veyou*, 'the sun.' Even the Peruvian, though a worshipper of the sun, raises his mind to the idea of a Being who regulates the movements of the stars. The sun, in the language of the Incas, bears

radical 'to carry,' *jare* (in the infinitive *jareri*), the result of which is 'carrying to be I.'

\* In the branch of the Germanic languages we find *bhu* under the forms *bim*, *bist*; *as*, in the forms *vas*, *vast*, *vesum* (Bopp, p. 138).

† Hence *fu-ero*; *amav-issem*; *amav-eram*; *pos-sum* (*pot-sum*).

‡ *Tamanacu*, 'a Tamanac' (plur. *Tamanakemi*): *Pongheme*, a Spaniard (properly 'a man clothed'); *Pongamo*, Spaniards, or 'men clothed.' The plural in *cne* characterizes inanimate objects: for example, *cene*, 'a thing;' *cenecne*, 'things:' *jeje*, 'a tree;' *jejecne*, 'trees.'