

MYTHS OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER INDIANS.

PART FIVE.

THE the sound of the deep, rolling into a feather. He then floated on the thunder, reverberating through the wind, up over and past the thunder god, skies, where there seemed to be no and caused a whirlwind to bring him material substance to produce a concus- back again. Coming near his antago- sion, and the flashing of the fiery light- nist, he settled down upon a dry sun- nings, have always been regarded, by flower stock, from which position he unlettered nations, as an indication of could see the movements of the storm the wrath of the gods. The Jupiter of god. During this time, Enumtla had the Romans, Zeus of the Grecians, and been watching these movements, and Thor of the Scandinavians have their kept thinking to himself, "That looks counterpart in the Enumtla, or thunder like a feather, and yet it looks like a god, of the Indians. Enumtla, the thun- man." The thunderer then raised him- der, was a powerful god, in the wat-tee- self up, that he might get a better look tash, or animal, age. His roar sent ter- at Speelyai. Being in doubt, he said, ror to the heart of every living thing. "Perhaps it is only a feather I knocked His searching gaze penetrated from his out of some one the other day, and the home in the clouds, to everywhere on wind has blown it here. I will try it the earth. No one could come within with a little rain, and see what it will range of his vision and escape notice. do."

When the thunder god saw any one, he He accordingly raised himself up and immediately spread dark clouds over thundered, and sent a shower of rain him, and thundered with such violence down upon the little, downy feather, but that he made the earth tremble, and it did not move. After the rain ceased, with one flash of his lightning, he laid all at once, the feather rose up on the his victim dead. All the people were in wind, and began to peal out thunder and dread of this great being, and scarcely flash lightning and pour down rain. It dared go away from their homes, for very much astonished Enumtla, that so fear of being "shot" by the lightning. insignificant a thing as a feather should attempt to imitate him, and he said to

himself, "I thought I was the only thun- derer in the world." He then thundered again at the little down, and poured down rain, flashing lightning in derision at this puny antagonist. At this, the disguised god, Speelyai, became very angry, and began to throw out the most terrific peals of thunder, and flashed lightning into the very eyes of the thun- der god himself, so much that he began to dodge and blink. In self defense,