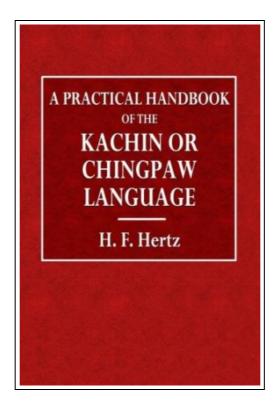
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Print on Demand ******.From the PREFACE. Our yearly increasing intercourse with the Kachins in the north of Burma makes the want of a practical handbook of the Kachin or Chingpaw language keenly felt. This book is designed to supply that want. The first part of the book explains the grammatical principles and peculiarities of the language, the second part consists of colloquial exercises exemplifying Kachin idioms, and the third part of a vocabulary. The system of orthography followed in this book is one that has been arranged by Mr. George, Deputy Commissioner, in consultation with the missionaries at Bhamo and accepted by the local Government for the spelling of Kachin words in Roman characters. There is great diversity of opinion among students of the language as to whether certain words should be spelt with g or k, b or p, d or t. The fact is that there is a slight difference in the pronunciation of certain words in different localities, and as there is no Kachin literature to guide us in the matter, I think the letters given above might be considered interchangeable. The language of the Kachins is very meagre, and the need of a larger vocabulary in their intercourse with Shans, Burmese, and Chinese has led to the introduction of many foreign words into the language. It is by no means difficult to learn, but an accurate pronunciation is only to be arrived at by colloquial practice.

-H. F. HERTZ.

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