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OUTLINES
of
BASQUE GRAMMAR.

BY
W. J. VAN EYS.

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of
SIMPLIFIED GRAMMARS
of the principal
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EDITED BY
REINHOLD BOST, LL.D., Ph.D.

III.
BASQUE.
BY W. J. VAN EYK.
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PREFACE.

Having been requested by Mr. Trübner to write a Basque Grammar in English, for his Series of "Simplified Grammars," I accepted with pleasure his flattering proposition, but not without some hesitation, as I had to write in a language which is not my own. I may add, that the concise form, which was a condition, has perhaps given occasionally an appearance of dogmatism in settling doubtful points, for the more ample discussion of which I must refer to my Grammaire Comparée.

W. J. VAN EYS.

San Remo,
November, 1888.
INTRODUCTION.

The study of the Basque Language began with Larrañendi, who composed a Grammar and a Dictionary. Taking the date into account, 1785, his labours are not inferior to many of those which appeared later, and comparatively, they are even much better than some works by recent authors, who have not Larrañendi’s excuse—the want of philological training. More and more there prevailed a tendency to condense the whole Grammar into the Verb, as if nothing else was worthy of attention, or offered any difficulty; and, again, the Verbs were condensed into one single Verb, and it was seriously assumed that the Basque language possessed one Verb only. It was not the Verb alone to which such childish theories were applied ; anything (and there was much) that was not understood, was considered to be extraordinary, and all that was extraordinary was deemed admirable. Sometimes well-established and undeniable facts (e.g., the existence of the Article) were flatly denied. Evidently those who first wrote about Basque had not the least notion of an agglutinative language (Hungarian, Turkish, &c.) ; but even in our languages, and principally in colloquial expressions, instances enough may be found by which to explain mysterious Basque forms. In our days, more serious attention has been paid to Basque Grammar, and it has been found out that Basque, like all
INTRODUCTION.

other languages, has Verba, Pronouna, Nouns, &c. The confusion about the Verb arises from the agglutinative nature of the language; but still, as was said just now, there are in Dutch, and also in English, instances of agglutination and contraction exactly as in Basque. If I want to say, "Het gy het hem gesegd" (Have you it to him said), I pronounce the Auxiliary with the Pronoun in one word—by'tem. The apostrophe represents the sound of ' in 'begin'; writing the word with 's, we have Apetem, which is just as the Basques do. 'Ain't' and 'Won't,' and the old English 'nict,' for 'I did not know,' are, it is true, exceptional forms, but they also serve to explain what happens in the Basque fiction, where it is the logical consequence of a prolonged want of culture of the language. No one knowing any longer how the Basque fictions were composed, the silly theory arose that they had only a conventional signification, in other words, that they had no signification at all; and this theory has adherents even in our days. Now that it has been discovered how the fictions are formed, it is easy to analyze them, and when Líjarraque says, "Uste due seic othoits dezidoala orain neure Aitasari" (Matt. xxvi. 58), "Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my father,"—we know that dezidoala is the first person singular of the present indicative of edin, 'can,' preceded by d, 'it.' Thus, dadí (Líjarraque writes dañi); 0 is 'him;' d is 'I' (when final always t—dadí, 'I can it'); in is 'that;' a is a binding vowel. The
translation, beginning at the end, is thus: 'that I to him can it.' After patient investigation, the difficulties little by little vanish; and if some points remain without a satisfactory explanation, the same may be said perhaps of many other languages, even cultivated ones.

It is to be regretted that the Basque Provinces do not take much interest in philological studies; the two periodicals started a few years ago prove this clearly enough, the whole series of 1881 containing nothing about the language.

The sources for the study of the Basque are plentiful enough to give a complete view of what the language is and what it was during a certain period; unfortunately this period is not a long one; the oldest printed book (Poesies Basques, Dechamps) bears the date of 1645, and, as far as I know, no manuscript of an earlier date exists. We have thus not only the oldest Basque book, but the oldest form of the language. The next in rank of age, but the most important of all Basque books, is the New Testament, translated by Licarraga, 1872. Much later, in 1845, we find Aznarian's Gueroco Guero, 1st ed., the most readable perhaps of all Basque books. These are the three most interesting publications in the Basque language. About the origin of Basque very little, or nothing, is to be said; the probability or possibility that Basque is the ancient Iberian was pointed out by Larramendi, and formulated by W. von Humboldt as a linguistic axiom in the following words:—'The terms, 'Iberian people' and 'Basque-
speaking people,' have the same value," (Prüf., p. 177); 
and again, "The ancient Iberians were undoubtedly 
Basques" (Prüf., p. 180). As nothing whatever is known 
of the Iberian language, as no so-called Iberian coin is 
even read with certainty, except the bilingual ones, as no 
inscription is deciphered, it is mere pretence to talk about 
an Iberian language. We want, in order to compare 
two things, to know at least something of both of them; and 
still we find the most sweeping assertions made even after 
Humboldt's theory had been discussed, with all respect due 
to the name of the eminent linguist. Mr. Locheire, 
Professeur d'Histoire au Lycée de Bordeaux, says, 
"Constates simplement la parenté incontestable des deux 
langues" (Origines linguistique de l'Acquitaine).—Incon-
testable! and we know not a word of Iberian.

Let us hope to arrive at better results now that a large 
number of inscriptions have been found in the neighbourhood 
of Este, Verona, and Padua. This interesting discovery 
proves once more the large area occupied by the so-called 
Iberians.

As lately the question has been revived in an English 
periodical, whether the Basques are or were of a dark or of a 
fair complexion, I may repeat here what I asked nearly ten 
years ago in my Dictionary, when quoting the words 
Bilbiagorri, Baluzorrri, 'naked,' and Larrugorri or Nar-
rugorri, 'naked;' the first signifying 'red-hair,' the second 
'red-skin;'—would this not prove that the Basques are, or 
were, of a fair complexion?
BASQUE GRAMMAR.

CHAPTER I.

The Basque Language.

The Basque Language, spoken in our days on both slopes of the Pyrenean Mountains, stands as yet absolutely isolated, but belongs to the agglutinative languages. There are six principal dialects, differing little the one from the other, from a philological point of view, but differing enough in their extreme varieties to make the one with difficulty intelligible to the other. These dialects are, the Biscayan, the Guipuzcoan, the Labourdian, the Souletin, the Navarrese, and the Low-Navarrese.

CHAPTER II.

The Alphabet.

The original Basque Alphabet is unknown, but it may possibly be found one day in the so-called Keliberian inscriptions. The Latin Alphabet has been adopted, with some slight differences.

The five vowels are pronounced as in Italian. The Souletin dialect alone pronounces e as French e, or German ë.
BASQUE GRAMMAR.

The consonants are also pronounced as in Italian, with the exception of, (1) y, which is always pronounced hard, as in 'go,' even before e and i; (2) s, which has the sound of English z; (3) ch, which is pronounced like sh in 'shall,' preceded by t. The French-Basque dialects write st. (6) j, which the Spanish-Basque dialects pronounce like the Spanish jota (j), and the French-Basque dialects like y in 'year.' Palatal s is pronounced like Spanish ñ, or gn in French agneau.

CHAPTER III.

The Phonetic System.

K.—Original k, when final and followed by a suffix, is converted into t, or is eliminated: ask, 'they,' followed by s, 'of,' makes aen, for akes, 'of them;' ekenk, 'the houses,' followed by ra, 'towards,' makes ekentar, and not ekendar. Most dialects do not like hiatus, and they introduce (after dropping of ë) s y, and instead of aen they may ayes; despas, for dehala, 'that thou hast.' The Biscayan dialect sometimes keeps the ë: piendar = piñeras, 'by the man.'

When k is not primitive, but when it proceeds from a, then medial ë is allowed: arkume, 'lamb,' from ari-akume, 'sheep-child.'

H.—The aspirated k has been preserved in the French-Basque dialects; the others have dropped it; e.g., âi, 'thou,'
is i in Basque and in Guipuzcoan. Final żą becomes ʒ: ʒaheh, ‘thou hearst it,’ from de-zahe; ʒ final ʒ stands for ki, ‘thou.’ Initial ʒ, coming in consequence of agglutination or composition in the middle of the word, is hardened to h, or is eliminated; e.g., ʒora-keria becomes zora-keria, ‘madness.’ When ʒ is thrown out the same result follows as with ʒ, i.e., hiatus is produced and then prevented by inserting y: d-arr-o-ʒ-s becomes derreto (see final ʒ), then derrato (see initial ʒ), ‘I have taken it from him.’ Some dialects keep the ʒ; e.g., zindehikus, ‘thou hast me.’ Others drop it, and replace it by y: zindezpas, from z-ində-ʒ-s.

T is dropped before h; bat and beid make baizd, ‘common.’

N becomes m before h, p—nowhait, from now-heait, ‘somewhere;’ and before h, i, e, e, the n is dropped—sora, ‘where to’ from now ra; pisazarenkin for pisazarenkin, ‘with the man;’ aitzitxik, from aitzin-ik, ‘on the contrary.’

Z before s becomes ʒ: esse, for essas, ‘he was not.’

R.—No word begins with r; there are two kinds of r, one hard, the other soft. The hard one is doubled when at the end of the word and when a suffix follows: ʒar, ‘earth;’ jarra, ‘the earth.’ Soft r is never doubled; it is found in some few words—or, ‘water;’ or, ‘dog;’ or, ‘wood;’ ora, ‘the water;’ ora, ‘the dog;’ ora, ‘the wood.’

The pronunciation of this r is very soft, it is nearly a ʒ.

F is seldom used, and has been replaced by ʒ.

F is considered as not being a Basque letter; there is only one word with ʃ, which looks, however, really like Basque—ʃarra, ‘laugh’ (substantive).
In consequence of the agglutination, the phonetic laws are continually in action, and have to decide which letters may follow each other. Thus, when two consonants meet in two different syllables, the following rules are to be observed:—The hard explosives after a sibilant, r or the vowels; the soft explosives after l, m, n.

In consequence of these rules, the hard explosives k, t, p are changed to their corresponding soft ones—g, d, b, after l, m, n; e.g., elde, and not elde, 'arrived'; ongi, and not onbi, 'well'; emendi, and not ementi, 'from here.'

The soft explosives, g, d, b, are changed to their corresponding hard ones, k, t, p, after r, the sibilants, and the vowels; e.g., Burgosko, 'of Burgos'; Ortheserra, 'inhabitant of Orthe'; but Ohoroserra. Lekukoa, 'that they were to us,' for leksiwas (from ps, 'us').

Examples of transposition of letters (methathesis, hyperthecsis) are very common in Basque; galeh=gosc, 'without;' irduni=ideri, 'to appear;' igaro=irogi, 'to second, to pass.'

Table of the Mutations of Consonants in Basque Words of different Dialects.

**Gutturals.**

K

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>s, ch</th>
<th>Karamioko=saramioko, 'scratch.'</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| t       | Xurdur=hatxur, 'humpbacked.' |

| g       | Galez=xale, 'inclined.' |

| h       | Ixe=ihika, 'flight.' |

| j       | Echxun=xechxun, 'landlord.' |
BARQU GRAMMAR.

\[ g \ldots \text{Burkoo=gurkoo, 'parent.'} \]
\[ m \ldots \text{Belgor=miggor, 'suit.'} \]
\[ f \ldots \text{See P.} \]
\[ M \ldots \text{A or f; Man=mam or fan, 'brain; ichini=imini=}' \]
\[ \text{ipini=ifisi, 'to put.'} \]

PALATALE.

\[ ta \ldots \text{Ichali=izraeli, 'to turn, to revolve.'} \]
\[ Ch \ldots \text{Ichaso=lanaso, 'sea.'} \]
\[ d (?), Ichari=idersi, 'alike.' \]
\[ N \ldots \text{A or f; See H.} \]

LINGUALE.

\[ d \ldots \text{See D.} \]
\[ l \ldots \text{See L.} \]
\[ m \ldots \text{See N.} \]
\[ s \ldots \text{Ernari=ermagi, 'being with young.'} \]

CHAPTER IV.

The Definite Article 'A' (the).

The Article is the demonstrative pronoun, formerly as, or ar, 'that'—now a, 'the': coko, 'house'; coko a, 'the house,' which is written cokes in consequence of the agglutinative nature of the language.
AGGLOTTINATION.

When a is followed by a suffix, generally the a reappears; e.g., a χε becomes άραν, 'of the'. As the plural is ą, the plural Article is ąράκ (Bisc) 'the;' French le; but this is not the form of the Article; ąράκ is only used as a demonstrative pronoun. The Article being always agglutinated to the noun, it does not exist by itself, and ąράκ, 'the man;' becomes ąράκακ, 'the man;' ą is simply added to the noun with the article.

CHAPTER V.

Agglutination.

Agglutination consists in putting one word behind another so as to form a more or less homogeneous compound; e.g., ąράκ, 'man;' ąράκε, 'the man;' ąράκακιάδι, 'for the man;' ąράκε, for ąράκαι-ę, 'I see it.'

The agglutinated word, or syllable, or letter, may be preceded by ą, ĕ, ī, ő:

When ā precedes, the ā is always the article, except in some few words which end in ā, like ąράκ, 'father.'

When ē precedes, this letter is merely a binding letter; thus, ĕt, 'one,' with the article, makes ĕτακ, 'the one,' and as subject of a transitive verb ēτακ; but ēt without the article, and represented as acting, would be ēτακ, which cannot be pronounced, and thus ē is interpolated—ēτακ. This ē is at the same time the characteristic of the indefinite form, i.e. the noun without article. Consequently words which do not admit of receiving a definite form, like pro-
nouns, have all of them an e before the suffix, if any interpolation be necessary; e.g. the pronoun e, 'that,' (formerly ar), followed by the suffix k, becomes ark, 'that,' and arak, 'these.' e serves only here to distinguish two identical forms. k in the first example is the suffix of the agent (subject of a transitive verb), and in the second one the suffix of plural. Norbait, 'some one,' with the suffix of action k, becomes norbaitek, not to distinguish it from another norbaitek, but because i and k are not allowed to follow each other. E is thus a neutral vowel, employed when a could not be made use of, or for pronunciation's sake.

When e precedes, exclusion is expressed: Giezoxko, joaage gera, 'We men, we shall go.' In French, 'Nous autres hommes,'... O + k is most probably a contraction of the demonstrative pronoun ekek.

J will be discussed in the next chapter. (See ik.)

CHAPTER VI.

§ 1. The Noun, Substantive and Adjective.

The Basque language distinguishes the substantive, the adjective, and the verb—e.g., house; hausi, 'great;' joase, 'to go.'

What is known as gender in other languages is unknown in Basque.

Number is either singular or plural. The suffix of the plural is k; e.g. ojoe, 'the man;' ojoeak, 'the men;'
THE ADJECTIVE.

emakume, 'the woman;' emakumak, 'the women.' The plural noun is never without the article; 'men' cannot be expressed.

There is no declension in Basque; the modifications expressed in other languages by cases or by prepositions, are rendered in Basque by suffixes, which are always agglutinated to the noun: saldi, 'horse;' saldia, 'the horse;' salkirra, 'of the horse;' salkidio, 'of horses;' salkidiat, 'one horse;' etc.

The noun, when followed by the article a, is called the definite noun, and when not followed by the article a, it is called the indefinite noun.

The Adjective.

As number is unknown, and as the plural is expressed by adding the plural article, there remains only to show how the degrees of comparison are formed. The comparative is formed by the suffix po, added to the definite adjective—handia, 'great;' handiago, 'greater;' and the following 'than' is expressed by bako or bai—en bako handiago, 'greater than you.' The superlative is formed by the plural genitive, followed by the article a. Thus, handi, 'great;' handiak, 'of the great;' (see "The Suffixes"); handiakoa, 'of the greatest;' pisnkon handiakoa, 'the greatest of (the) men;' or, also, pisnkon handiakoa, 'the greatest among men.'
CHAPTER VII.

The Suffixes.

The grammatical relations, expressed in other languages by cases or by prepositions, are expressed in Basque by suffixes; e.g., migabe, for mi-gabe, 'without me.' Har-gatik, for har-gatik, is exactly the English 'therefore;' har is the demonstrative; gatik is 'for.'

List of Suffixes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suffix</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>za</td>
<td>mark of agent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ba</td>
<td>mark of plural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a, 'in.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i, 'to.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>s, 'by.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ak, 'some.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ko, go, 'of.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>botat, 'for.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tset, 'for.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tsaoko, 'for.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hae, 'with.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hako, 'for.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>haa, gaa, 'with.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suffix</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>no, 'until.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dik, tiik, 'of.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beitkane, 'in.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pean, 'under.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gun, 'in.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gumea, 'to, at.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gandik, 'from.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gatik, 'for.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>re, 'towards.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rako, 'towards.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rANO, 'until.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rON, 'towards.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ha, 'on.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The suffixes are joined, some of them to the definite, and others to the indefinite noun, or also to both, i.e. the noun with or without the article.
THE SUFFIXES.

1. Those joined to the definite and indefinite noun: \( k, s \), subject-agent; \( n \), 'of;' \( i \), 'to;' \( s \), 'by;' \( ka \), 'with;' \( te \), 'for.'

E.g. 
- \( Gisna + k \), makes \( gisnak \), ‘man.’
- \( Gisna + i \), " \( gisnak \), 'the man.'
- \( Gisna + s \), " \( gisnesa \), 'by man.'
- \( Gisna + n \), " \( gisnase \), 'by the man.'
- \( Bilbao + n \), " \( Bilbasna \), 'in Bilbao.'
- \( Ecka + n \), " \( eckasa \), 'in the house.'

2. Those joined to the indefinite noun: \( ra \), \( rer \), \( ra \), 'towards;' \( ren \), 'until;' \( le \), 'of;' \( dik \), \( ik \), 'from, out;' \( \tilde{ik} \), corresponding to 'some;' \( ke \), 'on, by;'—

- \( Eckera \), 'towards (the) house'—(not \( eckera \)).
- \( Eckerosa \), "
- \( Eckero \), 'of (the) house.'
- \( Gisnak \), 'of some man.'
- \( Laddika \), 'on horse (horseback).'
- \( Ecketh \), 'from out of the house.'

3. Those joined to the definite noun: \( ges \), 'in;' \( gesa \), 'to;' \( pandik \), 'from;' \( biskh \), 'in;' \( na \), 'in' (our locative).

Thus, \( ecks \), 'in the house,' and never \( eken \); \( biskhegas \), 'in God.'

When words have no definitive form, like pronouns, proper names, etc., one is obliged to put these suffixes to the indefinite noun; \( s \), 'I,' can never be sic, 'the I;' thus, \( wi-gan \) makes \( wigus \), 'in me.' \( Bilbas- \) \( =Bilbas. \)
§ 2. The Suffix with the Plural Noun.

When the Suffixes are agglutinated to plural nouns, the k, mark of the plural, is scarcely ever maintained, but is generally converted into t; or it is dropped, and the hiatus caused by this dropping of k is prevented by inserting y:—

Hanh, 'these', + k (agent) makes hanuyx; for hanukh
Gisomak, 'the men' + m 'of'; gisomen, 'gisoinakem.
Eckak, 'the houses' + ko, 'ekakoko, 'ekakako.
Orick, those' + ra, 'oriraka, 'orick-ru.

§ 3. Description of the Suffixes.

K is the characteristic letter of the subject-agent, i.e. the subject of a transitive verb. For shortness sake we shall call it simply the agent, in distinction to the subject of the intransitive verb, which will be called the patient. Thus, ni sterrri naik, 'I have come'; but ni bedabi, 'I know it.
(In Basque, as in French, 'come' being an intransitive verb, is conjugated with ianu, 'to be,' of which naix, 'I am.')

The Spanish-Basque dialects observe this difference between agent and patient in the singular only. But the French-Basque dialects have kept it up in both numbers; e.g., hauvako joan diko, 'the children have gone.' Hauvako is the usual, unaltered, plural. Logoko doktorak berresku berresiakum, 'the doctors of law took for themselves'... Doktorak (agent) from doktorak; after dropping medial k—doktorak, then doktorak. K is thus the termination of the plural agent.
THE SUFFIXES.

X, the Suffix of Plural.

When followed by the suffixes s, es, ens, itik, k, and n (locative), it becomes t. Eshkek+s does not make eshek-, but eshek, 'in the house.' Gysk+rs becomes ogytara, 'towards these.' It is very seldom that k is maintained: gizmekar (Bisc.) for gizmetas, 'with the men.' The dropping of k is much more frequent than the mutation of k into t: e.g. Aek, 'those,' becomes as agent šegak for šekek.

The Suffix IX.

This suffix corresponds to 'de' partitif of French grammar, and in English it is generally not rendered at all, or rendered by 'some:' Bururik esku, 'He has no judgement;' Badem opirík, 'You have some bread.' In French one would say, Il n'a pas de jugement; Vous avez du pain. The 'de,' called partitif, explains nothing. I think one must consider (in Basque as in any other language) 'broad,' 'judgment,' &c., as words of an indefinite nature in point of number, and which are accompanied in English by 'some' or 'any' in Dutch by nothing at all, leaving the noun without any modifying word, either article or preposition, or adverb; and in Basque by ik. It is most probably nothing else than the plural k preceded by t, to which has been assigned, for some reason or other, an indefinite meaning. In fact, when I say in English, 'I have not seen any house like yours;' it is clear that 'house' though a singular conveys the idea of a plural: without plurality no comparison could have been established. It is thus the characteristic suffix
of the indefinite plural, and is originally a plural form. *A.* *tido* *akoa hasune,* and French, *beaucoup.* The *r* in *biderik* is for the sake of euphony. *Bi dogo gloriarik jauna pilakoaren agindak gorde gabak,* 'There is no glory, or there is not any glory, without the observance of God's commands.' 'Glory' in this instance does not present itself to the mind at once as a plural, because it does not admit so easily of a plural form; but if the example were, 'there is not any child without its defects,' one would think at once of a plural form.

The Suffix *N.*

*N* corresponds to our—

1. Locative.
2. Genitive.
3. Relative Pronoun.
4. Conjunction 'that.'

1 & 2. The origin of *n* is most probably the demonstrative *nosa,* with the signification of locality. *Bilbao,* 'in Bilbao,' was originally *Bilbao-nosa.*

This locative was later extended to express the genitive, as in Latin.*

3. The relative sentence was formerly added to the principal sentence by a demonstrative; so in Basque.

4. The demonstrative *nosa* is used as a conjunction (as in English 'that'), but in the contracted form of *n.*

N as a Locative.

N, except when it is agglutinated to the name of a place, is always added to a definite noun; e.g., echen, 'in the house'—never echon; but Madridex, Bilbexa, because names of places cannot have a definite form.

To express the same grammatical relation in the plural form, one adds s to the plural noun, and the mark of the plural k is converted into t; thus, eche + k + s becomes echet + t + s, or echertes, 'in the houses.'

N is never added to names of persons. (See Suffix ges.)

When words do not admit of a definite form, like pronouns, numerals, etc., s is agglutinated in the shape of ten; e.g., es, 'this,' followed by s, 'in,' is not esos, but antes, 'in this,' just as if es were a plural form.

 Hirun, 'three,' followed by s, makes hiruentus, and not hirunus. This apparent anomaly may proceed from the necessity of showing that it is an indefinite form; and as the indefinite form is a plural (see suffix 16), so the termination ses will have been agglutinated to this kind of words.

N as a Genitive.

As a genitive, s is agglutinated to definite and indefinite words; sesa + s makes sesares, 'of son.' the r is to prevent hiatus. Sesas + s makes sesares, 'of the son.' the r here belongs to the article s, which takes up the original r when a suffix follows.
The Biscayan dialect likes hiatus, and drops very often r—semem, semian, &c.

In the plural form the k is eliminated according to the rule, e.g., gisowen for gisonean, for gixenaken, ‘of the men.’ Hauk, ‘these;’ hauen, for hakenen, ‘of these.’

N as a Relative Pronoun.

The relative was originally a demonstrative word, and the sentence, enoe duu liburea, ‘the book that he has bought,’ was most probably in the original enoe duu sox libureu: duu, ‘he has,’ followed by sox, from sox, becomes duun.

N as the Conjunction ‘that.’

The conjunction was formerly in many languages, and also in Basque, a demonstrative word, and the sentence, ‘I think, that he will come,’ was originally ‘I think that, he will come.’ The transposition of the comma explains clearly the difference.

The Suffix 1.

It corresponds to ‘to’—gisow, ‘man;’ gisowi, ‘to man;’ gisoei, ‘the man;’ gisoeiari, ‘to the man.’ In the plural the k is dropped, and gisoeaki becomes gisoweai, or in the French-Basque dialects gisoeai.

The Suffix 2.

This suffix is rendered by ‘by’ or ‘with’ e.g., burax, ‘by heart;’ euhiltax, ‘with the stick.’ Bete borre, ‘full
with earth.' If the noun terminates with a consonant, as is the case with kar, it is necessary to interpolate e. With a plural noun, k is converted into t: giresak+x becomes giresetak, 'by or with the men.' The Basque dialect alone has preserved k, and also g instead of k; the other dialects have tas or kas, all corruptions of kaz.

This termination (tas, kas, gaz) is employed like tan (see n), with pronouns, numerals, &c. Haz+x makes hazas, or kasas, 'by these.' The Souleit in has the very corrupt form eza.

The Suffix dix or tik.

This suffix corresponds to 'from,' 'since.' Nendik naso? 'Where from do you come?' Hautiik konretxu epuera . . . .

'Resist from the beginning to him.' With plural nouns, the rule is always the same: eche+t+k-dik becomes echetaketik.

The Suffix xo or go.

This suffix is employed in different ways: (1) to express comparison (see the Degrees of Comparison). (2) As corresponding to 'from,' or 'of:' Burgoa, 'from Burgos;' aozhik, 'from aozha,' i.e. 'of (the) earth,' or 'terrestrial;' aozhrako, 'of before,' i.e. preceding; aozhrakak, 'those of before,' or 'ancestors.' The last examples prove that Basque, like many other languages, employ the genitive of a noun as an adjective. (3) Ko or go serves, as Spanish do, to form the future: esango dat, 'I have to give' = I shall give.

The Suffix tiax.

Tiax corresponds to 'for,' and is added generally to the
noun, followed by ə (genitive); e.g., gismentat, 'for the man;' gismentat, 'for the man.' When added to the noun in its unaltered form, the signification is somewhat different: erusant dakan, 'I hold him for mad.'

The Suffix ə̣AN or ə̣AN.
This suffix belongs to the Biscayan dialect, and is erroneously quoted as ə̣AN or ə̣AN, because the ə̣ belongs to the noun; ə̣ alone is the suffix 'in.' It is a plural form in use for the singular and the plural.

The Suffixes ə̣AN, ə̣AN, ə̣AN.
Gana, ganako, correspond to 'towards,' into;' Eiakohepēna liheto gititese, 'to raise one's heart unto God.' Ganako signifies 'from;' morpandikates, 'from whom do you come?'

The Suffix ə̣AN.
Gake, bage, bago, bagan, 'without,' is always added to definite nouns: opiagake, 'without bread.'

The Suffix ə̣ An.
No, ə̣ An, or ido, corresponds to 'until;' so is perhaps the conjunction an which has lost final a. The conjunction 'that;' may express 'until;' e.g., 'wait that I come,' or 'wait until I come.' Expresses the same idea. The only objection is the palatal pronunciation of ə in ə̣ An.

The Suffix ə̣.
Ra is rendered by 'to, towards,' or is not rendered at all.
THE SUFFIXES.

in English; e.g., ekhae son, 'I go (to) home.' Added to a plural noun, it is converted into ę; ekhe-ka-ra becomes ekhe-t-ra, or ekhe-tora, 'to, or towards, the houses.' The French-Basque dialects have sometimes rat for ra, or even le and lat.

The Suffix ęta.

Ęta is rendered by 'with,' and is always added to a noun followed by s, i.e. a genitive, and this makes it probable that ęta is for hide-s, 'in participation,' 'in company,' Goemarchie, 'with the man,' was thus originally 'in company of the man.'

The Suffixes RONTE, BAITHAN, E.A.

Ronza or ronza (Biscayan) corresponds to ra, 'towards.'

Baithan, or beilean, is used for s when persons are spoken of; e.g., eta ni baithan sineetin dias, 'I believe in me.'

Ea corresponds to 'at,' 'with.' Zoke, 'on horse( back);' kea,' with, or by, looks.' Ea is sometimes to; makiletate, 'with, or by, blows of a stick.'

Compound Suffixes.

There are compound suffixes, just as there are compound prepositions in English like 'towards,' etc. Keoat is rendered by 'in order to' or 'though.' Eka here eunwe ansatus errateleokat (Matt. xiii. 30), 'And bind them in bundles to burn them.' Aka akeate ahtekeata (for ahte-keata), 'though he be rich.'
Basque Grammar.

Zho, composed of z-ko, does not express more than z. Lako, 'because,' tasho, 'towards,' and some others which offer nothing worth while noticing, and which are to be found in the Dictionary.

CHAPTER VIII.

The Pronouns.

§ 1. The Demonstrative Pronouns.

Nowadays there are four demonstrative pronouns—o, auru, hau, hori. Traces of other pronouns, now lost, are found in the flexions of the verb; 1 as a third person, subject and object; e as a first person, subject; e.g., dabaeri, 'I see it,' from 2-dabaer-t; dō, 'he goes;' dōn, 'he goes.'

§ 2. The Pronoun a.

Originally this pronoun was hor, or in the Spanish-Basque dialects, which have lost h, or, 'that.' The Biscayan dialect is the only one which has preserved a as a pronoun, and at the same time as the article 'the.' In the first case it is written like all other pronouns, i.e. separated from the noun; as an article, it is agglutinated to the noun. When a is followed by a suffix the primitive r reappears, and a+n becomes arre, 'of that;' a+k becomes ark, 'those;' ar
THE PRONOUNS.

followed by k, the suffix of the agent, becomes arek. The Bizcayan plural arek is also arek, but the other dialects object to hiatus and have interpolated p—ayek. When the plural is followed by the suffixes e, es, ed, ezz, en (locative) k is converted into s; thus, eysk + s makes eysens, 'in those.' The French-Basque dialects have preserved, at least some of them, two plural forms—one for the agent, and another for the patient.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient</th>
<th>Agent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hebiek.</td>
<td>Hebik.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varieties</td>
<td>Heb.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hér is the singular; arek is the plural, which loses the r (arek), and is contracted in arek, 'those.' This arek followed by k, the suffix of the agent, becomes arehek.

§ 3. The Singular Pronouns with the Suffixes

X, e, xo, ra, die, boxe.

We have seen that when a plural noun or pronoun is followed by one of the above-named suffixes, the k of the plural is converted into s; this gives to these nouns an appearance as if they were followed by the suffixes tan, tas, tase, &c. This view has been adopted until now, but is erroneous, as has been shown; t is a converted k. But what is not yet explained is, that these terminations, tan,
tak, &c., are found agglutinated to the singular pronouns; e.g. the pronoun \( a \) (formerly \( ha \)) followed by \( n \) becomes \( har-tan \), 'in that'; \( en \), 'this,' becomes, when followed by \( n \), \( on-tan \), 'in this.' All pronouns, and in general all words that do not admit of a definite form, follow this rule; e.g. \( nitez \), for \( mi-a; \) 'by me'; \( kir-weakz \), 'in them;' for \( bir-ar-a, \&c. \)

Perhaps one may find an explanation in the fact that the indefinite form is sometimes expressed by a plural. (Compare \( \tilde{e}k \).

Some dialects have a special termination \( \tilde{e}k \) for expressing what is rendered in French by 'mêmes;' e.g. \( awa- \), 'this,' —celui-ci-même. \( Awake \) and the like are then considered as new themes, to which all the suffixes can be agglutinated.

§ 4. The Pronoun haux, hau, au.

This pronoun is only used as a patient, 'this,' and for the plural, \( haak \), 'these.' For the agent there is another form, from a theme \( oo \), or \( ha \), according to the dialects; thus, \( oek \), \( haak \). The Basque plural is also made of \( oo \)—\( oook \). The plural \( haak \) is also found as \( oek \) or \( oek \), and \( oook \); in Souletin, \( oook \). This pronoun has (like \( ha \)) an agent and a patient plural form—\( haak \) + \( ha \)\( haak \); and, after the dropping of medial \( a \), \( haak \), and then \( haak \). The other observations made respecting \( ha \) are also applicable to this pronoun.

§ 5. The Pronoun on or en.

This pronoun is only in use as the agent \( oook \) (see § 4); it is also found in the compound pronoun \( mer-oak \) (see § 8).
§ 6. The Pronoun Hori, Oral.

In all the dialects the patient is hori, or orí, ‘that,’ and the agent horikh, or orík; and the plural, horik. There are thus two themes—orí and or; the second with hard r, doubled when a suffix follows. Orí is never followed by a suffix, except by ḥ—orík, ‘these.’ On the contrary, orík, ‘of that;’ orí, ‘to that;’ oríkthas, ‘for that,’ are all formed by or. The Biscayan dialect makes also the plural from or—orík.

When one of the suffixes a, i, ka, di, ra, row follows the plural form, then k is converted into ḥ—orík + a becomes horíkian, ‘in those.’

§ 7. The Pronoun Hurz.

This pronoun exists in all the dialects, except in Biscayan, where the corresponding pronoun is a. Hurz, ‘that,’ is used in the singular for the patient; the corresponding agent is harz or orzh, from har. Hurz is not, or is seldom, employed with a suffix: hor takes its place—horzithas, ‘therefore;’ horz, ‘those.’

§ 8. The Personal Pronouns.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biscayan</th>
<th>G. L. Low-N.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I, wii, wi</td>
<td>wi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thou, es, i</td>
<td>is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We, gens, gu</td>
<td>gu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You, ess, sw</td>
<td>sw</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Judging from the verbal flexions, there was formerly
another personal pronoun for 'I;' this was t. E.g., dañust, 'I-see-it,' is formed of di-ikus-t; d, 'it,' ikus the verb, t, 'I.'

The third person is rendered by a demonstrative pronoun; and in the verb it is rendered in different ways. In the present of the indicative of transitive verbs it is conspicuous by its absence—dañust, [hes] 'see it.' In the same tense of the intransitive verb it is rendered by d, -doe, 'he goes.' Perhaps the same pronoun as subject, which we find as object and as initial in dañusten-dai-ikus-t.

The use of the pronoun ə is nearly obsolete; ə has been superseded by the more formal ə, 'you,' employed as a singular, like English 'you;' and consequently some sign was wanted to distinguish ə as singular from ə as plural, and this sign was found in the plural suffix ə. But as ə might have been taken for the agent, ə was inserted, and ə became the second person plural. In Souléun, ə.

The suffixes are added to these pronouns just as to the others; ə becomes ə; ə-xe=xalas, etc.

The emphatic personal pronouns are formed by the addition of a demonstrative pronoun; thus, ə, 'I,' and əxe, 'this,' becomes əxe, 'I myself.' Some dialects add the demonstrative to the genitive—əxe-xe, from xei-əx-


These pronouns are the genitives of the personal pronouns, i.e., əxə-xe, əxə-xe, etc.; final ə has been dropped—əxe.

nare əxe nare, my.
ere əxe ere, thy.
gere əxe gere, our.
sare əxe sare, your.
THE PRONOUN.

Nere eskue, 'the house of me;'  nere eskueal, 'the houses of me.'

The third person singular is expressed by bero, 'his;' for both numbers: the Spanish-Basque dialects have taken beres for the plural 'their.'

The third person can also be rendered by ares, 'of him;' and ares, 'of them.'

The second person plural being now such, the genitive is ares, for aras, 'of you.'

The possessive adjectives 'mine,' 'thine,' &c., are aresas or aresae, &c.—more literally translated by French 'le mien.'

§ 10. The Reflexive Pronoun.

The pronoun 'self' is rendered by bera, 'head.' Baian beres ezeres eku ezeren beraei (Mark xiii. 9), 'But take heed to yourselves.' As 'yourselves' is a plural, so bera has the plural form, i.e. bermad+i; and, after the dropping of i, bermai=bermai. (See suffix i.)

§ 11. The Relative Pronoun.

The relative pronoun is rendered by the suffix s (see the suffixes), assimilated to the verbal flexion; if this flexion ends with a consonant it is liable to the phonetic rules. Dat followed by s becomes dades: Ikusi dades gainoa, 'The man whom I have seen.' The oblique cases are rendered by the interrogative pronoun esin, e.g., Eche esin ake aro jabe, 'That house of which you are the proprietor.'
§ 12. The Interrogative Pronouns.

They are—nor, 'who'; ses, or sein, 'who, which'; ser, 'what.' Nor de kor? 'Who is there?' Zeri de kew?
'What is this?' The suffixes are agglutinated regularly to these pronouns: nor+h=nork, agent; nor+s=noren, 'of whom.'

§ 13. The Indefinite Pronouns.

Bat, 'some one;' baten, 'some' (plural); elihat (Souliein), 'some;' bakood, bakkoits, 'each;' bathtera, 'every one;' bidera, 'one, single.' Diakreak diraden enaste bederam semkar (1 Tim. iii. 12), 'Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife.' Bawa, 'each;' berta, berte, 'other; kawita, aunts, 'many;' inor, aikor, 'somebody;' zombeid, 'some.'—Eta hon ziradenetarikid zombeitek (Mark xiv. 47), 'And one of them that were there.' Novbaits, 'some one;' serbaits, 'something;' nor bera, nor ere, 'every one;' othar, 'each other;' odone, 'any one;' ezer, 'something.'
THE NUMERALS.

CHAPTER IX.

The Numerals.

The Cardinal Numbers.

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Hat</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bi, biga</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Hirur</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Lawr</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Borta</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Sei</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Zavpi</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Zoriz</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Bederetsi</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Hamar</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Hamaksu</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Hamaci</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Hamahiru</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Hamalaur</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Hamaborzi</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Hamasei</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The suffixes are agglutinated to the Numbers, as to the other nouns. Hat, as in the Spanish, is employed in the plural, and becomes hatsu (see the Indefinite Pronouns). The Ordinal Numbers are formed from the Cardinal Numbers by the suffix gurren—bigurren, hicperurren, &c. Hat does not form an Ordinal Number; lekempo, or tempo, corresponds to 'first.'
CHAPTER X.

The Verb.

§ 1. The Verb in General.

The Basque Verb may be divided into three classes, according to its nature, its signification, and its conjugation:

1. Primitive and Derivative Verbs.
2. Transitive and Intransitive Verbs.
3. Regular and Periphrastic Verbs.

A Verb is primitive, like ekarri, 'to bear'; joas, 'to go.'
A Verb is derivative, like apaiaza, 'to adorn,' from apaia, 'ornament.'
A Verb is transitive, like ekarri: daskat, 'I bear it.'
A Verb is intransitive, like joas: aoe, 'I go.'
A Verb is regular, like ekarri and joas.
A Verb is periphrastic; ae, ideaitza da, 'I have it in sight'; ao, I see it.
All Verbs are regular except ioae, 'to be.'

§ 2. Conjugation of the Regular Verbs.

The Transitive Verb.

Few languages have a more simple way of conjugation.
than the Basque language. The present of the indicative contains the verbal theme, preceded or followed by the pronoun—\textit{dekari}, 'I bear it,' from \textit{d-ekar-t}.

§ 3. MOODS AND TENSES.

The Basque Verb has three moods—the Imperative, the Indicative and the Optative Mood; and two tenses—the Present and the Imperfect. The Infinitive, the Subjunctive and Participles (except the Past), do not exist in Basque. A Verb is mentioned in the Dictionary by the verbal adjective (past participle).

The Imperative.

The second person contains the verbal theme, followed by the pronoun; \textit{ekarri}, 'to bear,' makes \textit{ekar}, 'bear thou,' from \textit{ekar-di}; \textit{ekarre}, 'bear you,' from \textit{ekar-re}. The third person has the pronoun prefixed—\textit{b-ekar} or \textit{bekar}, '(may) he bear.'

The Indicative.

The Indicative has two tenses—the Present and the Imperfect. The present is formed by the verbal theme, preceded by the object and followed by the subject. The present is never without the object 'it,' expressed by \textit{a} ; thus, \textit{dekari}, from \textit{d-ekar-t}, 'I bear it,' \textit{dekark}, from \textit{d-ekar-di}, ' thou bear it; \textit{dekar}, from \textit{d-ekar}, '(he) bears it.' The initial vowel becomes always \textit{e}, with some few exceptions, as \textit{irudi}, \textit{isbi}, \&c.
The characteristic letters of the subject and object are derived from the pronouns. They are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Object</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>t, L</td>
<td>s, from si.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>á, thou.</td>
<td>Á, ....  ki.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— he.</td>
<td>d, .... —</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gu, we.</td>
<td>g, ... gu.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zn, you.</td>
<td>z, ... zn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— they.</td>
<td>d, .... —</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We saw that the third person is conspicuous by its absence; the other persons are, dañargu, dañarse, dañarte. The third person plural is made from the singular, adding te, a sign of plurality. T as subject has an unknown origin (see the Pronouns).

The second person singular, being superseded by the second person plural, it was necessary to distinguish the new plural, and thus te was added, and dañarse becomes dañarte; 'you (plural) bear it.'

If the object be s, 'me' (instead of d), then we get mañar-ái, or mañark, 'thou bearest me;' mañor, '(he) bears me;' mañarse, 'you bear me,' &c. One cannot take two pronouns (object and subject) of the same person; this would give a reflexive relation, which is expressed in another way. If the object be aí, then the flexions will be a-ñar-t, 'I bear thee;' añor, '(he) bears thee,' &c. All the presents of all the indicatives of all the transitive verbs are inflected in this same way.
The Imperfect.

The imperfect never takes up in its flection the object; the subject precedes the verbal theme, which is followed by the termination -n, a constant characteristic of this tense. The personal subject is not i, but n (for ni, 'I'), which we find perhaps as object 'me' in the present (e.g., n-keharren, 'you hear me').

If an object have to be expressed, it precedes the flection, and the subject is then agglutinated to the verb and is followed by the termination -n; e.g., n-ekhar-ren-n, or nekarren, 'you bore me.' The imperfect without object will be—

n-ekhar-n, or nekarren, I bore.

k-ekhar-n, or Aekharren.

ekhar-n, or ekharren.

gekar-n, or gekarren.

sekhar-n, or sekharren.

ekhar-n, or ekharren.

This form is the more primitive, and is still found in the Bresian dialect; but in the other dialects it is always found with the following variations:

mekkarren, gemkarren.

ekkarren, semkarren.

sekkarren, sekkarren.

The principal difference here is the introduction, after the initial vowel, of n, the origin of which is unknown. The initial n of the third person is another deviation from the