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ARTICLE IX.

COMPARATIVE VOCABULARY

OF THE

SGAU AND PWO KAREN DIALECTS.

BY

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(Read October 13, 1852.)

COMPARATIVE VOCABULARY.

THE words in this vocabulary have been romanized from lists furnished by Rev. Messrs. Abbott and Van Meter, of Arrakan.* An inspection of the accompanying table will show that the Karen belongs to the family of Tatar languages, and that it is very similar to several dialects of the Nagas and other hill-tribes of Asam.

The vowels used in this vocabulary have their usual classical sounds: *ü* is the French *u*, and *û* denotes a peculiar sound, somewhat resembling the French *eu*, or *u* in *cur*. The italics *sh* and *th* are sounded as in English; *gh* is guttural; *n* is a nasal, nearly like *ng*.

There are six tones in Karen, which, in the native system of writing, are distinguished by various characters added to the inflected syllables. For want of more appropriate signs, I have here used the marks of punctuation to denote the tones, viz: a hyphen for the monotone, a comma for the falling inflection, the same inverted for the circumflex, a period for the short abrupt termination, and an inverted period for the high abrupt termination; while the natural tone is left without any specific mark.

* In a letter accompanying this paper, Mr. Brown says: "I now enclose for you a vocabulary of the Karen language, which I have had much difficulty in obtaining—all the missionaries having hitherto had an idea that the expression of that language in Roman characters was impossible. Mr. Van Meter, however, has at length assisted me in changing the native character to the Roman, and has furnished me with the Pwo dialect, in addition to the Sgau Karen furnished by Mr. Abbott. I believe this vocabulary will be found to be very correct, as it has been forwarded to Mr. Van Meter, a second time, for revision, since the transferring of it to the Roman character. For the purposes of a comparative vocabulary, I at first thought it would be unnecessary to notice the tones; but Mr. Van Meter informs me that they must be represented by distinguishing marks, in order to exhibit the language with propriety. The marks of punctuation are not, of course, so appropriate as others which might be invented; but they will answer in the room of better."—COMM. OF PUBL.

The word *me*, in Sgau Karen, with the variations of meaning produced by the inflections, will show the importance of properly distinguishing the tones:

1. <i>me</i>	natural tone,	<i>a tooth.</i>
2. <i>me-</i>	monotone,	<i>blackish.</i>
3. <i>me,</i>	falling tone,	<i>a sail.</i>
4. <i>me'</i>	circumflex,	<i>a cutaneous disease.</i>
5. <i>me.</i>	abrupt,	<i>an eye.</i>
6. <i>me'</i>	abrupt and high,	<i>sand.</i>

<i>English.</i>	<i>Sgau Karen.</i>	<i>Pwo Karen.</i>
Sky	mu ka pó ló	mü phó. phán,
Sun	mü.	mü
Moon	lá	lá
Star	tshá'	shá'
Light	tá ka. po	tshü' phán-
Darkness	taki	tshü' khi'
Day	mü tshá	mü tshá
Night	mü ná	mü ná
God	ka tsá yuá	ka tsá yuá-
Religion	alü alá	alu alá
Soul	thá.	thá.
Lightning	lo	lon wai' adi-
Thunder	lo tho'	lon ghwen-
Air, wind	ka li	li-
Earth	ho kó	gon khó'
Fire	mé' u	mé'
Water	thi	thi,
Cloud	tá, ũ'	tshü ũn-
Smoke	khü'	mé' khu'
Ashes	phá tshá	tshü pé' klá
River	thi kló	thi kló.
Mountain	ka tsü	khó' lon
Road	kle	phün thá.
Gold	thu	thon'
Silver	tsé	tshé-
Iron	thá.	thá.
Stone	lü	lón
Man	pó khwá	pshá'
Woman	pó mü	pa mü'
Father	pá,	phá,
Mother	mó,	mó

<i>English.</i>	<i>Sgau Karen.</i>	<i>Pwo Karen.</i>
Son	phó khwá	phó' khwá,
Daughter	phó mü	phó' mü'
Brother (elder)	do phü we	thün, wei
" (younger)	phü khwá	thün, phü
Sister (elder)	do phü we	thün, mü' wei
" (younger)	phü' mü'	thün, mü' phü
Boy	phó khwá	phó' khwá,
Girl	phó mü	phó' mü'
Name	mé	mén-
Horse	ka thé'	thi'
Cow (bos)	go pi ; amó	tshü' mén'
Buffalo	paná,	pa ná
Elephant	ka tsho	ka tshán,
Tiger	bo thá ó	bo'
Monkey	ta aü	tshü ú'
Goat	me te le	bhé'
Hog	thó	thó'
Dog	thwi'	thwi'
Cat	thá' mi yo-	mi nyo-
Mouse	yü pó	yó.
Bird	thó'	thó'
Hen	tso mo pgá	tsán, mo pgá-
Crow	tso ghá pgá	
Snake	gü	wgu
Fish	nyá'	yá'
Butterfly	thá' pi no' li	thá' nán' yv.
Fly	thá bü lá	dú lá,
Musquito	pa chó ; ta ghá	tshü' phó'
Ant	tü,	thün,
Head	khó'	khó'
Hair	khó thú	khó' thú'
Eye	me.	me.
Ear	ná	ná
Nose	ná tsá'	ná,
Mouth	thá khó	nó'
Tooth	me	thwá,
Back	.....	klón,
Belly	ü	wgu phün-
Hand	tshü	tshu'
Finger	tshü mü	tshu' nón-
Foot	kho	khán'
Skin	phi'	phi'
Bone	ghí	ghwi
Blood	thwi	tshü thwi

<i>English.</i>	<i>Sgau Karen.</i>	<i>Pwo Karen.</i>
Horn	kü nu	nón-
Tail	me	mé
Egg	di'	di'
Wing	di'	di'
Feathers	to atshu	tó di'
Tree	thé'	thén'
Root	gi	wi
Leaf	lá'	lá'
Flower	pho	phó,
Fruit	ta thá'	thá'
Plantain	thakwi	thá' klü' athá'
Rice	bü	wu- tshá'
Salt	i thá	thi, lá'
Milk	nü thi	nu thi'
Oil	thó	thó'
Cloth	yá'	shán,
Knife	do	ghé.
Sword	ná	ná.
Spear	bo	phán-
Bow	khli'	khli'
Arrow	plá	phlá
House	hi	yén
Door	tre aná hó	trán,
Village	tha wo	ta wün,
Boat	kli	kli,
I	yá-	yá-
Thou	ná-	ná-
He, she, it	awe	awe
We	pawe	pawe
Ye	thüwe	thü we
They	awe thé'	awe thé'
Mine	ya tá,	ya tshü'
Thine	ntá	ntshü'
His	atá	atshü'
Ours	pa tá	pa tshü'
Yours	thu wé thé atá	nthi atshü'
Theirs	awe thé atá	awe thi atshü'
Who?	mtá- tagá- le'	me pá- lagá- lai'
Which?	mnü- tami- le'	me no' lamin- lai'
What?	mnü- le'	me no' lai'
This	ai-	a yó-
That	ané'	ano'
Other	agá-	agu, ga-

<i>English.</i>	<i>Sgau Karen.</i>	<i>Pwo Karen.</i>
Anything	tá tami mi	lamin-min-
Such	di a né	be, i' be, ó'
Somebody	mtá tagá	pshá lagá gá
All	kelü	ton a lu.
One	ta, or tü,	ka du-
Two	khi	ni,
Three	thü	thün,
Four	lwi,	li,
Five	ye,	yei
Six	ghü	ghü,
Seven	nwi	nwi
Eight	ghó'	ghó'
Nine	khwi	khwi,
Ten	ta tshi	ka tshi,
Eleven	ta tshi tü,	ka tshi, ka du-
Twelve	ta tshi khi	ka tshi, ni,
Thirteen	ta tshi thü	ka tshi, thün,
Fourteen	ta tshi lwi,	ka tshi, li,
Twenty	khi tshi	ni, tshi,
Thirty	thü tshi	thün, tshi,
Forty	lwi, tshi	li, tshi,
Fifty	ye, tshi	yai tshi,
Hundred	ta ka yá	ka yá-
Thousand	ta ka thó	ka thon'
East	mü, tho'	mü thán'
West	mü, nü.	mü nü.
North	ka li thi	li-khi,
South	ka li tsó	li-thi'
Right	tsü twe	tshü' twé'
Left	tsü tsé	tshü' tsé'
Far	ye	yein-
Near	bu'	bu'
High	tho	to,
Low	.....	phü'
Much	á má	á'
Little	ta á bá	ka tshi'
Great	dó	dó'
Small	pó	phó'
Long	to	to,
Short	phü'	phü'
Broad	pá le	lai
Narrow	i	ein'
Round	phlü	phlón-
Straight	ló-ló-	lon-

<i>English.</i>	<i>Sgau Karen.</i>	<i>Pwo Karen.</i>
Crooked	ké'	ken'
Old	lo li	li-
New	tho	thán'
Ripe	mi	min-
Raw	thi ka tshe	thén-tsé.
Sweet	tsü	tsün-
Sour	tsi'	tsein,
Bitter	ká'	ká'
Hot	kó,	khó
Cold	gó.	ghon
Good	gé	gé-
Bad	ta gé bá'	ün-
Handsome	aghí alá	aghí' alá-
Ugly	.....	ün-
Fat	bo	bon'
Lean	ghe	ghwé'
Thick	.....	dün-
Thin	bu	bün-
Heavy	ghü	ghün-
Light	pgi	ghwi'
Hard	kó	non-
Soft	ngu	phu.
Sharp	é	ein'
Dull	ta é bá'	li.
White	wá	bwá-
Black	thu	thün,
Blue	ta lá	lá,
Green	.....	yé,
Red	go	gho-
Yellow	bo	bán
To be	ó'	o'
Do	má-	má-
Live	mu	mün
Die	thi	thi,
Eat	o'	on
Drink	o	o-
Sleep	mi	mi,
Wake	phü thé no	mi, non' thon'
Laugh	ni	ni
Weep	ho'	gon'
Speak	kató	klein.
Hear	ná hu	ná gün,
Know	thé nyá	thé' yá,

<i>English.</i>	<i>Sgau Karen.</i>	<i>Pwo Karen.</i>
Sing	<i>thá wi</i>	<i>thá' wí'</i>
Dance	<i>ge kali</i>	<i>gei' thün' li.</i>
Stand	<i>thsü thü</i>	<i>tshün, thün'</i>
Sit	<i>tshé no</i>	<i>tshun, non-</i>
Walk	<i>há</i>	<i>gá. phá'</i>
Run	<i>ghé</i>	<i>tsein' ta lein</i>
Fall	<i>lo te</i>	<i>lon-thi. phá'</i>
Want	<i>thá' kwi</i>	<i>bá' athá'</i>
Have	<i>ó</i>	<i>o'</i>
Seek	<i>khlü</i>	<i>on' ghá.</i>
Get	<i>né</i>	<i>on' má-né</i>
Give	<i>hé lo</i>	<i>phé' lon,</i>
Take	<i>há né</i>	<i>má-né</i>
Bring	<i>he tshó.</i>	<i>gei, tshó.</i>
Carry	<i>te tshó.</i>	<i>tshó.</i>
Lift up	<i>tü to</i>	<i>tshán' thon'</i>
Put down	<i>pá lo</i>	<i>o' ké' lon</i>
Break	<i>ká</i>	<i>khá</i>
Cut	.....	<i>phi.</i>
Tear	<i>nyá</i>	<i>shán, yá.</i>
Bite	<i>é</i>	<i>ein'</i>
Pull	<i>thü.</i>	<i>thü.</i>
Push	<i>thü.</i>	<i>thü.</i>
Strike	<i>dó</i>	<i>dó'</i>
Kill	<i>má thi</i>	<i>má-thi,</i>
Bury	<i>kulo</i>	<i>bün-lon-</i>
Burn	<i>tshu</i>	<i>khó gó.</i>
Love	<i>é'</i>	<i>ei'</i>
Hate	<i>thá' hé</i>	<i>thá' gein,</i>
Fear	<i>pli</i>	<i>thá' mei'</i>
Be angry	<i>thá' tho'</i>	<i>thá' thon'</i>
Quarrel	<i>thó'</i>	<i>ein' ló. athá'</i>
Steal	<i>hü</i>	<i>on' gu.</i>
Buy	<i>pgé</i>	<i>ghwé-</i>
Sell	<i>tsá</i>	<i>on' tsán,</i>
Work	<i>má</i>	<i>má-</i>
Play	<i>ló</i>	<i>ló. kwé-</i>
I go	<i>tsa le-</i>	<i>ya le-</i>
Thou goest	<i>nle-</i>	<i>nle-</i>
He goes	<i>a le-</i>	<i>awé dále-</i>
We go	<i>pawe le-</i>	<i>pawé dá lé-</i>
Ye go	<i>thüwe le-</i>	<i>nthi lé-</i>
They go	<i>awe thi le-</i>	<i>awe thi lé-</i>
I went	<i>tsa le-li</i>	<i>ya lé-li</i>

<i>English.</i>	<i>Sgau Karen.</i>	<i>Pwo Karen.</i>
I will go	tsa ka le-	ya ka lé-
I go not	tsa ta le-bá'	ya la lé-bá'
I wish to go	tá, mó' le- bá' ya thá.	tshü' mó' lé-bá' ya thá.
I can go	tsa le-thé'	ya lé-thé'
Go thou	lé- ná-	lé- ná-
Go not	le- ta gé-	lé-la gé-
Come here	he tshu i-	gei, thon yó-
Be silent	ó' bgó'	o' ka tshü'
Look!	kwá,	yó tshü'
Do you see?	nthi' há	ndá' há
Give me	hé lo yá	phé' lon, yá-
Give him	hé lo o	phé' lon, ü-
Do as I do	má-di' ya má-athó.	má-bo ya má-athó.
Of	a	a
Wing of bird	thó adi'	thó adi'
To	tshu	lũ or thon
From	lũ	lũ
By	.....	lũ
With	di'	lũ or di'
In	lũ—pu	lũ—phün
On	lũ—pho khó'	lũ—alon
Above	lũ—pho khó'	lũ—phán khó'
Below	lũ—pho lá.	lũ—phán lá.
Between	lũ—bü tsü	lũ—bur tsün,
Within	lũ—pu	lũ—phün
Without	lũ—khó	lũ—akhon,
And	do'	do'
Or	.....	mwoi gé-
Yes	mé,	mwoi é
No	ta mé, bá'	la mwoi bá'
Why?	bá' ma nü le'	bá' no' lei'
How?	di' le'	be, thi' lei'
How much?	tshir' á le'	tshir' á' lei'
Thus	di' i	be, yó-
Here	lũ i-	thon yó-
There	lũ né'	thon no
Where?	ó' lü le'	o' kho, lei
Now	khe kani-i-	bó nán yó-
Then	.....	thon no ato
When?	le'	tsir' yi' lei'
To-day	ma tsá-tani-i-	ka ni-yó-
Yesterday	mü, há tani-	la mü gá'
To-morrow	khe go-	khó go-khó.

TABLE SHOWING THE AFFINITIES OF SEVERAL

A, á, e, é, i, o, ó, u, ü, ũ, pronounced as in *America*, father, men, they; police

	<i>Tibetan.</i>	<i>Bhotia.</i>	<i>Limbu.</i>	<i>Murmi.</i>	<i>Milchan.</i>	<i>Thebarskad.</i>	<i>Sgau Karen.</i>	<i>Pwo Karen.</i>	<i>Banfera Naga.</i>	<i>Hatigoria Naga.</i>	<i>Khari Naga.</i>	<i>M. Naga.</i>
Father	phá	aphá	ambá	ábá	bábá	ápá	pá	phá	ápá	upá	tabá	op
Mother	ámá	ámá	amó	ami	ammá	ammá	mó	mó	ánu	uchá	tü	or
House	khyim	chim	him	dhim	kim	kium	hi	yen	ham	ki	aki	ne
Name	ming	ming	ko ming	min	na mang	min	mé	mén	man	ta nung	achu†	m
I	ná	ngá	ingá	ngá	ang, gu	gi	yá	yá	ku	nyi	ni	he
Thou	khyod†	khyed†	khe né	ai†	ká†	ngán	ná	ná	nang	ná	nang	na
Eye	mig	mik	mih	mih	mik	mi	me	me.	mit	ta nyak	te nik	m
Tooth	só	só	há	swá	gá, sóa	sóa	me.	thwá	vá	ta bu	ta phá	ph
Dog	khyi	khyi	ko chü	na gi	kui	khui	thwi	thwi	hi	azz	ai	ku
Bird	byu	chyá	wá	.....	pi	pi	thó	thó	o	azó	o záh	o
Snake	brul	beu	osek†	pu kuri	sabas*	brul	gü	wgu	pu	pürr	ahü	p
Fish	nyá	ngá	ngá	nyá	machas*	machas*	nyá	yá	nyá	angu	anghá	n
Sun	nyi má	nyi má	nam	di ni	yu ni	ni má	mü	mü	ráng han†	an nü	suhih†	w
Moon	lá va	dá wá	lhá bá	lá ni	gal sang†	gal sang†	lá	lá	let lu	yi tá	le ta	le
Fire	má	me	mé	mi	mi	mi	méu	mé	van†	mi	ma tsü	á
Water	chu	chu	chóa	kim	ti	chu	thi	thi	ti	tsü	atsü	si
Two	nyis	nyi	nyet shi	ngi	nish	nishi	khi	ni	anyi	anna	anná	ih
Three	sum	sum	sum shi	sóm	sum	sum	thü	thün	azam	á sam	lem†	le
Four	zhi	zi	li shi	bli	pu	pi	lwi	li	ali	pazz	pha li	p
Five	hná	ngá	ná shi	ngá	ngá	ngai	ye	yei	agá	pungu	pha ngá	n
LOCALITY.	<i>Tibet.</i>	<i>Bhutan.</i>	<i>Near Dorjiling.</i>		<i>Kemaon.</i>	<i>Kemaon.</i>	<i>Burmah.</i>		<i>Near Sibsagor.</i>		<i>Near Jorh</i>	

* From the Sanskrit.

† Shyan.

REAL LANGUAGES OF TATAR ORIGIN.

r; police, nor, note, bull, fut, fleur; n nasal; th as in think.

<i>ari</i>	<i>Mulung</i>	<i>Manipuri.</i>	<i>Burman.</i>	<i>Singpho.</i>	<i>Miri.</i>	<i>Mikir.</i>	<i>Garó.</i>	<i>Kachari.</i>	<i>Dhimal.</i>
<i>ga.</i>	<i>Naga.</i>								
bá	opá	ipá	aphá	wá	bábá	apo	áphá	áphá	ábá
	onu	imá	ami	nu	náná	aió	ámá	áyá	ámmá
i	nok†	yim	eing	ntá†	ekum	hem	nák†	ná†	sá†
hu†	min	ming	ami	ming	amin	men	bi mung	mung	ming
	helam†	ae	ngá	ngai	ngo	ne	ángá	áng	ká
ng	nang	nang	nen	náng	noná	náng	náa	nang	ná
nik	mik	mit	myet si	mi	amik	amek	muk ran	mig an	mi
phá	phá	yá	thwá	wá	ipáng	á'cho	wá gom	háthai	si tong†
	kui	hwi	khwé	gui	iki	hi	á chák	choi má	khia
záh	o há	u chek	nghet†	wu	patang†	wó	da ó	da u	ji há
ü	pu	lil†	myué	la pu	tá bü	phurul	chi po	ji bo	pu nhi
ghá	nyá le	ngá	ngá	ngá	ongo	ok	natok	ngá	háya
hih†	wán ghe†	nu mit	né	ján*	doanye	ar ni	sal*	sán*	belá*
ta	le	thá	lá	sitá	po lo	chok lo	já	ná khálar	tá li
a tsü	áh	mae	mi	wan	ümme	me	wal†	wat†	mén
sü	si	i sing	yé	ntsin	ássi	lang†	chi	dói	chi
uná	ih	a ni	nhit	nkhong	ngoie	hi ni	gi ni	ngi	nge
m†	lem†	a hum	thóng	ma sum	a um	ka tham	gi thám	thám	sum
ia li	pi li	ma ri	lé	ma li	á pi	phi li	bri	bre	pu
ia ngá	ngá	ma ngá	ngá	ma ngá	ü ngo	phong	bongá	bá	ngá
	<i>Near Jorhat.</i>	<i>Manipur.</i>	<i>Burma.</i>	<i>Asam.</i>	<i>Asam.</i>	<i>Asam.</i>	<i>Garó Hills.</i>	<i>Kachar.</i>	<i>Koch Behar.</i>

n. † Derivation unknown.