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A SKETCH

OF THE

SECHUANA GRAMMAR.

*(Stiff paper)*

BY THE

REV. J. FRÉDOUX,

OF THE PARIS MISSIONARY SOCIETY.



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# A SKETCH

## OF THE

# SECHUANA GRAMMAR.

### I. ORTHOGRAPHY.

1. The Sechuana Language has about thirty-four sounds, which we represent by the following letters:—

#### VOWELS.

				Examples.
a	pronounced as a	in English	in <i>hard</i>	<i>ba, they.</i>
é	”	a	” in <i>cane</i>	<i>gō béla, to boil.</i>
è	”	a	” in <i>spare</i>	<i>gō èma, to stand.</i>
i	”	ee	” in <i>see</i>	<i>gō bina, to dance.</i>
ō	”	o	” in <i>hot</i>	<i>gō bōna, to see.</i>
ō*	”	o	” in <i>no</i>	<i>Mōrimō, God.</i>
u	”	u	” in <i>rule</i>	<i>gō ruta, to teach.</i>
u	”	u	in French in <i>lui</i>	<i>cuéré, a sparrow.</i>

#### CONSONANTS.

b	pronounced as b	in English		<i>gō bua, to speak.</i>
h	”	h	”	<i>gō hōla, to heal.</i>
k	”	k	”	<i>kūa, there.</i>
l	”	l	”	<i>tōna, you.</i>
m	”	m	”	<i>mashi, milk.</i>
n	”	n	”	<i>naré, a buffalo.</i>
p	”	p	”	<i>pitsa, a pot.</i>
r	”	r	in <i>rude</i>	<i>gō rata, to love.</i>
s	”	s	in <i>see</i>	<i>gō sila, to grind.</i>
t	”	t	”	<i>tau, a lion.</i>
y	”	y	in <i>year</i>	<i>gō ya, to eat.</i>
c	”	ch	in <i>cheese</i>	<i>gō cūa, to come out.</i>
g	”	g	in Dutch in <i>gaan</i>	<i>bōgalé, anger.</i>

\* This sound might be divided into two, one of which is very near to u.



ny	pronounced as gn in French in <i>seigneur</i>	<i>nya, no.</i>
sh	sh in English in <i>shall</i>	<i>gō shuba, to hide.</i>
tl	tl " in <i>bottle</i>	<i>gō tlōla, to anoint oneself.</i>
ts	ts " in <i>pots</i>	<i>mōtsé, a town.</i>
ñ	is a ringing <i>n</i> nearly equivalent to <i>ng</i>	<i>ñuana, a child.</i>
í	a soft articulation between <i>l</i> and <i>r</i>	<i>gō rísa, to herd.</i>
ch	<i>c</i> followed by an aspiration	<i>gō chúara, to seize.</i>
kh	<i>k</i> " "	<i>gō khúanya, to knock.</i>
ph	<i>p</i> " "	<i>phéhō, wind.</i>
th	<i>t</i> " "	<i>thata, strength.</i>
tlh	<i>tl</i> " "	<i>gō tlhōla, to stay.</i>
ts'	<i>ts</i> " "	<i>léts'a, a saltpan.</i>
χ*	the hard articulation corresponding to <i>g</i>	<i>χōmō, an ox.</i>

2. When two vowels follow each other, usually both must be distinctly sounded. Should the former be *o*, *u* or *y*, a diphthongal, or nearly single sound, is, however, often formed. In such a case, we place the sign ^ above the two letters.† Care must be taken not to pronounce as a diphthong two vowels which are to be distinctly heard, and *vice versâ*. For example, *gō cûa* (diphth.) means *to come out*, and *gō cua* (not diphth.), *to take off the hair of a skin*.

The vowel of the penultima is usually long and well accented, whilst that at the end of a word is commonly short and somewhat indistinct.

3. Of the consonants, some are *soft* and others *hard*, as shown here below; and, according to fixed rules, those of the former class are often permuted into those of the second:

Soft.	Hard.	Examples of Permutation.	
b	p	<i>gō böna, to see</i>	<i>gō ipōna, to see oneself.</i>
g	χ	<i>lōgōpō, a rib</i>	<i>lixōpō, ribs.</i>
h†	ph or kh	<i>gō hitlha, to hide</i>	<i>gō iphitlha, to hide oneself.</i>
l	t	<i>gō lōma, to bite</i>	<i>gō itōma, to bite oneself.</i>
í		<i>gō ríra, to work</i>	<i>gō itirèla, to work for oneself.</i>
r	th	<i>gō ruta, to teach</i>	<i>nthuta, teach me. [with.</i>
s	ts or ts'	<i>gō sila, to grind</i>	<i>ts'ilō, a round stone to grind</i>
sh	ch	<i>gō shōlōhèla, to hope</i>	<i>chōlōhèlō, hope.</i>

In some dialects, there is a *hard* articulation corresponding to *y*, this being then considered as a *soft* consonant.

4. When, in the conjugation of verbs, in the formation of nouns, &c., an *i* succeeds an *l*, this letter is changed into *í*; e.g. *gō bala* (*to count*), *ké baíilé* (*I have counted*.)

\* In Sechuana books this articulation is represented by *kh*.

† Where that double sound occurs, many would use the *w*, as it is done in Kafir books, and write, for example, *cwa* instead of *cûa*.

‡ The primitive sound of that letter is *bh*, although, perhaps, not in all words. It is thus pronounced by several tribes.

Likewise, when *s* or *ts* comes before *o* or *u*, the former is changed into *sh* and the latter into *c*; e.g. *tishō* (the herding), instead of *tisō*, from *go rīsa* (to herd); *picō* (the calling) instead of *pitsō*, from *gō bitsa* (to call.)

5. When the syllable *mo* occurs before the letter *b*, *o* and *b* are elided, and *m* is prolonged or vocalised; e.g. *kéa mōna* (I see him) instead of *kéa mō bōna*. Again, when *o* occurs between *m* and *h*, it is elided by some tribes; e.g. *mhagō* (provision of food for a journey), instead of *mōhagō*.

## II. ETYMOLOGY.

### 1. NOUNS.

6. The Sechuana nouns have no genders. The number is shown by prefixes attached to them, some of which are singular and others plural. Nouns without prefixes, expressed or understood, are all singular. The following table shows all the prefixes, singular and plural:

PREFIXES.		EXAMPLES.	
Singular.	Plural.	Singular.	Plural.
1.* <i>mō</i> , <i>personal</i>	2. <i>ba</i>	<i>mōsarí</i> , <i>woman</i>	<i>basarí</i> , <i>women</i> .
	4. <i>mé</i>	<i>mōtsé</i> , <i>town</i>	<i>métsé</i> , <i>towns</i> .
3. <i>mō</i>	6. <i>ma</i> , <i>of trees</i>	<i>mōkala</i> , <i>camel-thorn</i>	<i>makala</i> , <i>camel-thorns</i> .
5. <i>lé</i>	6. <i>ma</i>	<i>léina</i> , <i>name</i>	<i>maina</i> , <i>names</i> .
7. <i>sé</i>	8. <i>li</i>	<i>sétlharé</i> , <i>tree</i>	<i>litlharé</i> , <i>trees</i> .
11. <i>lō</i>	10. <i>li</i>	<i>lōnaō</i> , <i>foot</i>	<i>linaō</i> , <i>feet</i> .
14. <i>bō</i>	6. <i>ma</i> , <i>rare</i>	<i>lōlōapa</i> , <i>yard</i>	<i>malōapa</i> , <i>yards</i> .
	6. <i>ma</i>	<i>bōsigō</i> , <i>night</i>	<i>masigō</i> , <i>nights</i> .
9. <i>wanting</i>	10. <i>li</i>	<i>pitse</i> , <i>horse</i>	<i>lipitse</i> , <i>horses</i> .
	6. <i>ma</i> , † <i>of a large number</i>	<i>tsèphè</i> , <i>spring-bok</i>	<i>masèphè</i> , <i>great many springboks</i> .
1. <i>wanting</i>	2. <i>bō</i>	<i>nché</i> , <i>ostrich</i>	<i>bōnché</i> , <i>ostriches</i> .

NOTE.—When the prefix *lō* is placed before a word beginning with a soft consonant, and the prefix for the plural is to be *li*, that consonant is changed into the corresponding hard letter; e.g. *lōhaha* (feather), *liphaha* (feathers); *lōbōnè* (candle), *lipōnè* (candles), &c. Should the radical be a monosyllable, an *n* is prefixed to the permuted consonant; e.g. *lōfi* (cord), *linti* (cords). Before *p* that *n* becomes *m*; e.g. *lōbu*, pl. *limpu*.

\* These numbers are borrowed from Dr. Bleek's tables.

† As in the example given, that prefix always softens the initial consonant of the noun, when this can be done.

7. There are no declensions in the Sechuana language. Prepositions, particles, derivative forms of the verb, supply the place of changes in the ending of the nouns. There is, however, what has been called a *locative* case. It occurs after the prepositions *mō*, *kūa* or *ha*, expressed or understood. To the last vowel of the word is then added *ñ*, and if that vowel be *broad*, it becomes *acute*; if *acute*, still more *acute*. Again, should that vowel be *a* it is changed into *e*; e.g. *lōnaō* (foot), locative, *mō lōnaōñ*, in the foot; *sérība* (a well), *mō sérībēñ* (in the well.)

8. The *genitive* is expressed by means of a pronominal particle placed between the two nouns, like *of* in English. It is ruled by the prefix of the first noun, being different for different prefixes, as shown below :

SINGULAR.		
Prefixes.	Particles.	Examples.
1.3. <i>mō</i>	<i>ōa</i>	<i>mōruti ōa mé</i> , my teacher ( <i>lit.</i> the teacher <i>of</i> me.)
5. <i>lé</i>	<i>ya</i>	<i>léséri ya létsatsi</i> , the light <i>of</i> the sun.
7. <i>sé</i>	<i>sa</i>	<i>sébété sa χōmō</i> , the liver <i>of</i> an ox.
11. <i>lō</i>	<i>lōa</i>	<i>lōhaha lōa nché</i> , the feather <i>of</i> an ostrich.
14. <i>bō</i>	<i>yōa</i>	<i>bōgalé yōa tuu</i> , the anger <i>of</i> a lion.
9. <i>wanting</i>	<i>éa</i>	<i>thipa éa gagōē</i> , his knife ( <i>lit.</i> the knife <i>of</i> him.)
1. „	<i>ōa</i>	<i>nchéōa bōna</i> , their ostrich ( <i>lit.</i> the ostrich <i>of</i> them.)

PLURAL.

2. <i>ba</i>	<i>ba</i>	<i>banōna ba mōtsé</i> , the men <i>of</i> the town.
4. <i>mé</i>	<i>éa</i>	<i>métsé éa bōna</i> , their towns ( <i>lit.</i> the towns <i>of</i> them.)
6. <i>ma</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>mahōkō a χōsi</i> , the words <i>of</i> the king.
8.10. <i>li</i>	<i>tsa</i>	<i>liχōmō tsa Béchuana</i> , the oxen <i>of</i> the Bechuana.
2. <i>bō</i>	<i>ba</i>	<i>bochūéné ba hats'é yé</i> , the baboons <i>of</i> that country.

9. *Formation of Nouns.*—The greater part of Sechuana nouns are derived from verbs. A few have a different origin.

(a.) Personal nouns are formed from verbs by prefixing *mō* to the root, and changing the final vowel into *i*. Words of that class agree in signification with English verbal nouns in *er*,—*i.e.* they denote the *author* of the action expressed by the verb; e.g. *mōagi*, a builder, from *gō aga*, to build; *mōréki*, a buyer, from *gō rēka*, to buy, &c. In such words, broad vowels of the verb become acute,—*i.e.* *ō* is changed into *ō*, *è* into *é*

(b.) Nouns denoting the *action* of doing the thing signified by the verb are formed, without a prefix, by changing the final vowel into *ō*. Such nouns often correspond to English words in *tion*; e.g. *chōlō*, the action of taking, from *gō chōla*, to take; *lhabanō*, the action of fighting, from *gō lhabana*, to fight, &c. When the verb begins with a *soft* consonant, this is changed into the *hard* letter corresponding to it; and when it begins with a vowel, a *k* is prefixed; e.g. *palō*, the action of counting, from *gō bala*, to count; *hilō*, the action of hating, from *gō ila*, to hate, &c.

Sometimes nouns thus formed denote an *instrument* or a *tool* with which the action is performed.

(c.) By making the same change as above in the final letter (*a* into *ō*), and prefixing *mō*, *lō*, *bō* or *sé*, other nouns are formed, which have different meanings according as it is one or the other of those prefixes which is attached to them.

(d.) The infinitive of the verb is often used as a noun.

(e.) Nouns can be formed from all adjectives by prefixing *bō*; e.g. *bōnchō*, blackness, from *nchō*, black; *bōntlē*, beauty or beautyfulness, from *ntlē*, beautiful. When the initial consonant of the adjective (without a prefix) can be *softened*, such a permutation must be made; e.g. *chūéu*, white, *bōshūéu*, whiteness. Comp. § 11.

## 2. ADJECTIVES.

10. The Sechuana language has but few adjectives. They are placed after the nouns, with the prefix of these attached to them; moreover, a pronoun is usually inserted between the two words; e.g. *banōna ba banchō*, black men; *mōtsé ō mōgōlō*, a great town.

11. As a general rule, after all the prefixes except *li*, the initial consonant of the adjective, if *hard*, must be changed into the *soft* one; e.g. *banōna ba bagōlō*, great men (not *bagōlō*); but with *li* (or *ri*) we have, for example, *liχōsi tsé rīχōlō*, great kings (not *rigōlō*).

12. Substantives are very frequently used as adjectives; e.g. *bathō ba ba bōgalé*, angry people; *banōna ba ba mōlémō*, good men.

## 3. PRONOUNS.

13. The Personal pronouns of the *first* and *second* persons are as follows:

### FIRST PERSON.

	Emphatic.	Subjective.	Objective before the verb.	Following the genitival particle.	Con- junc- tive.
Sing.	{ <i>nna, me.</i>	{ <i>ké, kóa, ka,</i>	{ <i>n, m (before</i>	{ <i>mé,ka,(oi)me.</i>	{ <i>n.</i>
		{ <i>n, I.</i>	{ <i>p), me.</i>		
Plural.	{ <i>rōna or chōna,</i>	{ <i>ré, réa, ra, we.</i>	{ <i>ré, us.</i>	{ <i>rōna or chōna,</i>	{ <i>rō or</i>
	{ <i>we, us.</i>			{ <i>(of) us.</i>	{ <i>chō.</i>

### SECOND PERSON.

Sing.	{ <i>òena, thou,</i>	{ <i>ō, ōa, thou.</i>	{ <i>gō, thee.</i>	{ <i>gagō,(of)thee.</i>	{ <i>ō.</i>
	{ <i>thee.</i>				
Plural.	{ <i>lōna or nyéna,</i>	{ <i>lō, lōa, you.</i>	{ <i>lō, you.</i>	{ <i>lōna or nyéna,</i>	{ <i>lō.</i>
	{ <i>you.</i>			{ <i>(oi) you.</i>	

14. Those of the third person are ruled by the prefixes of the nouns to which they are related. They are shown in the following table, together with the genitival particles (see § 8.) and the Demonstrative pronouns.

Prefixes.	Personal Pronouns of the Third Person.					Genital Particles.	Demonstrative Pronouns.
	Emphatic.	Subjective.	Objective before the Verb.	Following the Genital Participle.	Conjunctive.		
<p><b>SINGULAR.</b></p> <p>1. <i>mō, personal</i> }  <i>wanting</i> }  3. <i>mō, of things</i> }  5. <i>lé</i>  7. <i>sé</i>  11. <i>lō</i>  14. <i>bō</i>  9. <i>wanting</i>  15. _____</p>	<i>éna, him</i> <i>ōna, it</i> <i>yōna</i> <i>shōna</i> <i>lōna</i> <i>yōna</i> <i>éōna</i> <i>gōna</i>	<i>ō, ōa, a, he</i> <i>ō, ōa,</i> <i>lé, léa, ya</i> <i>sé, séa, sa</i> <i>lō lōa</i> <i>bō, bōa, yōa</i> <i>é, éa</i> <i>gō, gōa, ga</i>	<i>mō, him</i> <i>ō, it</i> <i>lé</i> <i>sé</i> <i>lō</i> <i>gō</i> <i>é</i> <i>gō</i>	<i>gagōé, (of) him</i> <i>ōna, (of) it</i> <i>yōna</i> <i>shōna</i> <i>lōna</i> <i>yōna</i> <i>éōna</i> <i>gōna</i>	<i>e</i> <i>o</i> <i>yo</i> <i>sho</i> <i>lo</i> <i>yo</i> <i>éō</i> <i>go</i>	<i>ōa,</i> <i>ōa</i> <i>ya</i> <i>sa</i> <i>lōa</i> <i>yōa</i> <i>éa</i> <i>ga</i>	<i>this</i> " " " " " " " " " " " " <i>ha or mō</i>
<p><b>PLURAL.</b></p> <p>2. <i>ba, bō</i>  4. <i>mé</i>  6. <i>ma</i>  8. <i>10. li</i></p>	<i>bōna, they, them</i> <i>éōna</i> <i>ōna</i> <i>cōna</i>	<i>ba, baa, they</i> <i>é, éa</i> <i>a</i> <i>li, lia, tsa,</i>	<i>ba, them</i> <i>é</i> <i>a</i> <i>li</i>	<i>bōna, (of) them</i> <i>éōna</i> <i>ōna</i> <i>cōna</i>	<i>bo</i> <i>éō</i> <i>o</i> <i>co</i>	<i>ba</i> <i>éa</i> <i>a</i> <i>tsa</i>	<i>these</i> " " <i>a or úa</i> <i>tsé</i> " " " "

15. The pronouns of the first column (*emphatic*) are used for emphasis and after the prepositions; those of the second, only as subjects of the verb; those of the third, as accusatives placed before the verbs; those of the fourth, after the genitival particles; those of the fifth (*conjunctive*) are used as prefixes to the words *tlhé* (all) and *si* (alone), and are suffixed to the preposition *na* (with); e.g. *bathō bōtlhé*, all men; *ké bōna bōsi*, it is they alone; *ké tsilé nabō*, I have come with them. Prefixed to the syllable *na*, they form the emphatic pronouns. Sometimes they are used in place of the genitival particle. The Demonstrative pronouns are placed after the noun.

NOTE.—When the objective pronoun *n* (first person) is prefixed to a verb beginning with a *soft* consonant, this is permuted into the *hard* letter, and when it is prefixed to a verb beginning with a vowel, a *k* is inserted between the pronoun and that vowel; e.g. *ntésa*, leave me, from *go lésa*, to leave; *nkuřima*, lend me, from *gō arima*, to lend.

16. The Relative pronoun does not exist in Sechuana; its place is supplied by the Demonstrative followed by the Personal; e.g. *mōnōna éō ké mō ratañ*, the man *whom* I love; *mōnōna éō ō nthatañ*, the man *who* loves me.

17. The Interrogative pronouns are the following:

*Eñ* or *ñ*? what?

*Mañ*? (sing.); *bōmañ*? (plur.), who?

*Hé*? which?

*Ñ* is suffixed to the verbs and to the genitival particle; e.g. *ō řisañ*? what do you herd? (*lit.* you herd what?); *tōkuálō loañ*? a book of what?

To *hé* is prefixed the Personal subjective pronoun, e.g. *mōtsé ōhé*? which town? *bathō bahé*? which men? *liřōmō lihé*? which oxen?

#### 4. VERBS.

18. The Sechuana verbs are conjugated according to the following paradigm, in which, however, we give only the simplest and most important forms of tenses and moods.

#### *Conjugation of the verb Gō rēka, To buy.*

##### INDICATIVE MOOD.

##### *Present Tense.*

Affirmative.	Negative.
kéa rēka, <i>I buy</i>	ga ké réké, <i>I buy not</i>
ōa rēka, <i>thou buyest</i>	ga ō réké, <i>thou buyest not</i>
ōa rēka, <i>he buys</i>	ga a réké, <i>he buys not</i>
réa rēka, <i>we buy</i>	ga ré réké, <i>we buy not</i>
lōa rēka, <i>you buy</i>	ga lō réké, <i>you buy not</i>
baa rēka, <i>they buy</i>	ga ba réké, <i>they buy not</i>

*Imperfect.**Affirmative.*

ké lé ké rèka, *I was buying*  
 ō lō ō rèka, *thou wert buying*  
 ō la a rèka, *he was buying*  
 ré lé ré rèka, *we were buying*  
 lō lō rèka, *you were buying*  
 ba lé ba rèka, *they were buying*

*Negative.*

ké lé ké sa réké, *I was not buying*  
 ō lō ō sa réké, *thou wert not buying*  
 ō la a sa réké, *he was not buying*  
 ré lé ré sa réké, *we were not buying*  
 lō lō sa réké, *you were not buying*  
 ba lé ba sa réké, *they were not buying*

*Past.*

ké lé ka rèka, *I bought*  
 ō lō ōa rèka, *thou boughtest*  
 ō la a rèka, *he bought*  
 ré lé ra rèka, *we bought*  
 lō lōa rèka, *you bought*  
 ba lé ba rèka, *they bought*

ga nka ka rèka, *I bought not*  
 ga ōa ka ōa rèka, *thou boughtest not*  
 ga a ka a réka, *he bought not*  
 ga réa ka ra rèka, *we bought not*  
 ga lōa ka lōa rèka, *you bought not*  
 ga ba ka ba rèka, *they bought not*

*Perfect.*

ké rékilé, *I have bought*  
 ō rékilé, *thou hast bought*  
 ō rékilé, *he has bought*  
 ré rékilé, *we have bought*  
 lō rékilé, *you have bought*  
 ba rékilé, *they have bought*

*Future.*

ké tla rèka, *I shall buy*  
 ō tla rèka, *thou shalt buy*  
 ō tla rèka, *he shall buy*  
 ré tla rèka, *we shall buy*  
 lō tla rèka, *you shall buy*  
 ba tla rèka, *they shall buy*

ga nkitla ké rèka, *I shall not buy*  
 ga ō kitla ō rèka, *thou shalt not buy*  
 ga a kitla a rèka, *he shall not buy*  
 ga ré kitla ré rèka, *we shall not buy*  
 ga lō kitla lō rèka, *you shall not buy*  
 ga ba kitla ba rèka, *they shall not buy*

**IMPERATIVE MOOD.**

a ké rèkè, *let me buy*  
 rèka or ō rèkè, *buy*

a ké sé rèkè, *let me not buy*  
 sé rèkè or ō sé rèkè, *buy not (or do not buy)*

a a rèkè, *let him buy*  
 a ré rèkéñ, plur. } *let us buy*  
 a ré rèkè, dual. }  
 rèkañ or lō rèkè, *buy*  
 a ba rèkè, *let them buy*

a a sé rèkè, *let him not buy*  
 a ré sé rèkéñ, plur. } *let us not buy*  
 a ré sé rèkè, dual. }  
 sé rèkéñ or lō sé rèkè, *buy not*  
 a ba sé rèkè, *let them not buy*

## SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD.

## Affirmative.

ké rèkè, *that I may buy*  
 ɔ̀ rèkè, *that thou mayst buy*  
 a rèkè, *that he may buy*  
 ré rèkè, *that we may buy*  
 lɔ̀ rèkè, *that you may buy*  
 ba rèkè, *that they may buy*

## Negative.

ké sé rèkè, *that I may not buy*  
 ɔ̀ sé rèkè, *that thou mayst not buy*  
 a sé rèkè, *that he may not buy*  
 ré sé rèkè, *that we may not buy*  
 lɔ̀ sé rèkè, *that you may not buy*  
 ba sé rèkè, *that they may not buy*

## POTENTIAL.

nka rèka, *I may or can buy*  
 ɔ̀ ka rèka, *thou mayst buy*  
 ɔ̀ ka rèka, *he may buy*  
 ré ka rèka, *we may buy*  
 lɔ̀ ka rèka, *you may buy*  
 ba ka rèka, *they may buy*

ga nkaké ka rèka, *I may not or cannot buy*  
 ga ɔ̀ kaké ɔ̀a rèka, *thou mayst not buy*  
 ga a kaké a rèka, *he may not buy*  
 ga ré kaké ra rèka, *we may not buy*  
 ga lɔ̀ kaké lɔ̀a rèka, *you may not buy*  
 ga ba kaké ba rèka, *they may not buy*

## CONDITIONAL MOOD.

nkɔ̀ ké rèka, <i>I would (or I should, I ought to) buy</i>	nkɔ̀ késaréké, <i>I would (or should) not buy</i>
ɔ̀ kɔ̀ ɔ̀ rèka, <i>thou wouldst buy</i>	ɔ̀ kɔ̀ ɔ̀ sa réké, <i>thou wouldst not buy</i>
ɔ̀ kɔ̀ a rèka, <i>he would buy</i>	ɔ̀ kɔ̀ a sa réké, <i>he would not buy</i>
ré kɔ̀ ré rèka, <i>we would buy</i>	ré kɔ̀ ré sa réké, <i>we would not buy</i>
lɔ̀ kɔ̀ lɔ̀ rèka, <i>you would buy</i>	lɔ̀ kɔ̀ lɔ̀ sa réké, <i>you would not buy</i>
ba kɔ̀ ba rèka, <i>they would buy</i>	ba kɔ̀ basaréké, <i>they would not buy</i>

NOTE.—*Kabò* is often used instead of *kɔ̀*.

## INFINITIVE MOOD.

## Present Tense.

gɔ̀ rèka, *to buy*                                      gɔ̀ bisa gɔ̀ rèka, *not to buy*

## Future.

gɔ̀ tla rèka

## PARTICIPIAL MOOD.

## Present Tense.

rèkañ    sa rékèñ *or* sa rèkañ

## Perfect.

rékiléñ



19. *Formation of the perfect.*—The perfect is usually formed by changing (as in the example given) the final *a* in *ilé* (*kéa rèka*, I buy; *ké rékilé*, I have bought). But, when the verb ends in *na* this syllable is usually changed into *nyé*, *bōna*, *bōnyé*

<i>ma</i>	”	”	<i>mé</i> , <i>palama</i> , <i>palamé</i>
<i>nya</i>	”	”	<i>ntsé</i> , <i>ōmánya</i> , <i>ōmantsé</i>
<i>tsa</i>	”	”	<i>řitse</i> , <i>bitsa</i> , <i>bifitsé</i>
<i>ts'a</i>	”	”	<i>ts'itsé</i> , <i>bōnts'a</i> , <i>bōnts'itsé</i>
<i>ala</i> or <i>èla</i>	”	”	<i>étsé</i> , <i>lébala</i> , <i>lébétsé</i>
<i>sa</i>	”	”	<i>sitsé</i> , <i>řisa</i> , <i>řisitsé</i>
<i>ara</i>	”	”	<i>éré</i> , <i>apara</i> , <i>apéré</i>
<i>aéa</i>	”	”	<i>ailé</i> or <i>éilé</i> , <i>tsamaéa</i> , <i>tsamailé</i>
<i>ōla</i>	”	”	<i>ōtsé</i> , <i>bōlōla</i> , <i>bōlōtsé</i> .

In the formation of the perfect all vowels are generally made acute.

20. *Formation of the passive voice*—The passive voice is formed by merely inserting everywhere (in all the tenses and moods) an *o* or a *u* (equivalent to *w*) before the last vowel of the verb in its active form; e.g. *kéa rata*, I love, *kéa ratōa*, I am loved; *ké ratilé*, I have loved, *ké ratilóé*, I have been loved. But when the verb ends in

Examples.

<i>ma</i> or <i>nya</i> ,	this is usually changed into	<i>ñōa</i> , <i>rōma</i> , <i>rōñōa</i>	
<i>ba</i>	”	”	<i>yōa</i> , <i>tlhaba</i> , <i>tlhayōa</i>
<i>pa</i>	”	”	<i>cōa</i> or <i>piōa</i> , <i>bōpa</i> , <i>bōcōa</i> or <i>bōpiōa</i>
<i>sa</i>	”	”	<i>siōa</i> , <i>řisa</i> , <i>řisiōa</i>
<i>tsa</i>	”	”	<i>řiōa</i> , <i>bitsa</i> , <i>bifriōa</i>
<i>aéa</i>	”	”	<i>aōa</i> , <i>aioa</i> or <i>éōa</i> , <i>naéa</i> , <i>néōa</i>
<i>ha</i>	”	”	<i>hiōa</i> or <i>shōa</i> , <i>alaha</i> , <i>alahiōa</i> or <i>alashōa</i> .

21. *Derivative species of the verbs.*—(a.) *Their formation.* The conjugation of derivative verbs is, in all things, similar to that of the radical species. They are formed from this in the following way :

Examples.

The Relative, by changing final <i>a</i> into <i>èla</i> ,	<i>bala</i> , <i>balèla</i>		
The Causative	”	”	<i>isa</i> , <i>lōma</i> , <i>lōmisa</i>
The Reciprocal	”	”	<i>ana</i> , <i>rata</i> , <i>ratana</i>
The Reflective, by prefixing <i>i</i>			<i>kaéa</i> , <i>ikaéa</i> .

NOTE.—When a verb ends in *sa* or *tsa*, the *Relative* species is formed by changing these syllables into *sétsa* and *létsa* respectively; e.g. *řisa*, *řisétsa*; *bitsa*, *bilétsa*. Verbs ending in *na* have generally their *Causative* form in *nya*; e.g. *kitlana*, *kitlanya*. In the formation of the *Reflective* species, when the first letter of the root is a *soft* consonant it must be changed into the corresponding *hard* letter; and when it is a vowel, a *k* must be inserted; e.g. *bōna*, *ipōna*; *ila*, *ikila*.

(b.) *Their signification.*—The Relative species supplies the words *for, in reference to, &c.*; e.g. *gō cōma*, to hunt, Rel. *gō cōmèla*, to hunt *for*; *gō gama*, to milk, Rel. *gō gamèla*, to milk *for*.

In the Causative form the subject *causes* or *helps* another agent to do the thing expressed by the simple species; e.g. *gō aga*, to build, Caus. *gō agisa*, to cause to build, or to help to build. In this form, all the vowels of the root are generally made acute; e.g. *gō böla*, Caus. *gō bōrīsa*; *gō ötsèla*, Caus. *gō ötsérīsa*.

In the Reciprocal the action is performed upon each other by two or more agents; e.g. *gō bölaéa*, to kill, *gō bölaana*, to kill *each other*.

In the Reflective it is performed by the subject upon himself; e.g. *gō ipōlaéa*, to kill oneself.

NOTE.—The above are the most important forms of the Sechuana verb. There are others which we omit to mention in this short sketch; besides which, we often find those various species combined in different ways; e.g. *gō ipōlaèla*, to kill for oneself (the Relative combined with the Reflective), from *gō bölaéa*, to kill.

#### 5. ADVERBS.

amaruré, <i>truly</i>	gōrimō, <i>above</i>
é, <i>yes</i>	hèla, <i>only</i>
ga, sa, sé, or ga sé, <i>not</i>	kaé? <i>where?</i>
gapè, <i>again</i>	ka galè, <i>always</i>
gauhi, <i>near</i>	kampō, <i>perhaps</i>
gōmpiyénō, <i>to-day</i>	ka mōshō, <i>to-morrow</i>
gōna, <i>there</i>	kuâ, <i>there</i>
maabané, <i>yesterday</i>	léñ? <i>when?</i>
malōba, <i>the day before yesterday</i>	thata, <i>much</i>
mōgō, <i>together</i>	tlasé or tlat's'é, <i>below</i>
mōnō, <i>here</i>	yalō, <i>thus</i>
mōragō, <i>after</i>	yañ? <i>how?</i>
nya, <i>no</i>	yana, <i>now</i>
pélé, <i>before</i>	χakala, <i>far</i>

#### 6. PREPOSITIONS.

go, <i>to</i>	lé, <i>with</i>
ka, <i>by</i>	mō, <i>in</i>
ké, <i>by</i>	na, <i>with</i>

#### 7. CONJUNCTIONS.

gōné, <i>because</i>	lé, <i>and</i>
gōré, <i>that</i>	mé, <i>and</i>
ha, <i>if</i>	yaka, <i>as</i>
ka, <i>as</i>	χōtsa, <i>or</i>

## 8. INTERJECTIONS.

ai!	} express surprise.	chōkhō!	denotes a sensation of great heat.
hau!		ts'ikhi!	denotes a sensation of cold.
ya!		yō!	exclamation of fright or distress.
au!	signifies wonder or indignation.		
bu!	or u! is used to call people together.		

## JOHN X, 1—8.

Amaruré, amaruré, kéa lō raéa, éna éō ō sa tsénéñ ka χōrō  
*Verily, verily, I (to) you say, he that not entereth by the door*  
 mō sakēñ ya linku, mé a palama ka gōsélé, éō ké  
*in the fold of the sheep, but he climbeth by another way, this it is*  
 légōru lé sénōkóané; mē éō ō tsénañ ka χōrō, ké  
*a thief and a robber; but (he) who entereth by the door, it is*  
 mōfisa ōa linku. Mōfisa ōa χōrō ōa m̄ulèla;  
*the shepherd of the sheep. The keeper of the door he to him openeth;*  
 mē linku lia utluà kōru éa gagòè; mē ōa bitsa linku  
*and the sheep they hear the voice of him; and he calleth the sheep*  
 tsa gagòè ka maina; mē ōa li isétsa ntlè. Mé a sina gō  
*of him by names; and he them leadeth out. And when he has*  
 bōlōtsa linku tsa gagòè, ōa li ètèlèla pélé; mē linku  
*put forth the sheep of him, he them goeth before; and the sheep*  
 lia mō latèla, gōngé lia itsé kōru éa gagòè. Mé ga lí  
*they him follow, because they know the voice of him. But not they*  
 kitla li latèla mōéñ, mē li tla mō ts'aba, gōngé  
*will they follow a stranger, but they will (from) him flee, because*  
 li sa itsé kōru éa . baéñ . Yésu a ba bōlèlèla  
*they not know the voice of strangers. Jesus he them told*  
 séchuancō sé, mē ga ba ka ba tthalōganya sé ō sé buañ  
*parable this, but not they did they understand what he spake*  
 nabō . Yésu a ba a ba raéa, Amaruré, amaruré,  
*with them. Jesus he again he (to) them said, Verily, verily,*  
 kéa lō raéa, ké nna χōrō éa linku . Bōtlhé ba ba tsiléñ  
*I (to) you say, it is I the door of the sheep. All who came*  
 pélé ga mé, ké magōru lé linōkóané; mē linku ga lia ka  
*before me, it is thieves and robbers; but the sheep not they did*  
 tsa ba utluà.  
*they them hear.*































