Linguistics

From the earliest surviving glossaries and translations to nineteenth-century academic philology and the growth of linguistics during the twentieth century, language has been the subject both of scholarly investigation and of practical handbooks produced for the upwardly mobile, as well as for travellers, traders, soldiers, missionaries and explorers. This collection will reissue a wide range of texts pertaining to language, including the work of Latin grammarians, groundbreaking early publications in Indo-European studies, accounts of indigenous languages, many of them now extinct, and texts by pioneering figures such as Jacob Grimm, Wilhelm von Humboldt and Ferdinand de Saussure.

Initia Amharica

C.H. Armbruster (1874–1957) was a civil servant in the Anglo-Sudan government and a linguist specialising in African languages. After visiting Ethiopia on diplomatic missions in 1906 and 1907 Armbruster published this three-volume reference work on colloquial, spoken Amharic between 1908 and 1920. Armbruster’s study of Amharic was one of the first to be written in English, and exemplifies the shift among linguists away from the formal, classics-based style of earlier reference grammars towards a focus on colloquial speech and communication. The examples are drawn from direct knowledge of the contemporary language, unlike similar works of the period which were often based on centuries-old Ethiopian Orthodox biblical texts. Volume 3, completed in 1919, is a substantial Amharic–English vocabulary, with guidance on pronunciation, and idiomatic English glosses for Amharic phrases and sentences.
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Initia Amharica

An Introduction to Spoken Amharic

Volume 3 – Part 1:
Amharic-English Vocabulary with Phrases

C.H. Armbruster
INITIA AMHARICA

An Introduction to spoken Amharic
INITIA AMHARICA

An Introduction to spoken Amharic

BY

CHARLES HUBERT ARMBRUSTER, M.A.

Sudan Civil Service; H.M. Consul for North-west Ethiopia; Major, General Staff (Intelligence), Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

PART III

AMHARIC-ENGLISH VOCABULARY
WITH PHRASES

VOLUME I

v—ň
H—S

CAMBRIDGE

at the University Press

1920
ἐμοὶ δὲ παρὰ πάντα τὸν λόγον ὑποκέεται ὅτι τὰ λεγόμενα ὑπ’ ἐκάστων ἄκοι ἡ γράφω.

Herod. ii. 123.
To my wife
Stefana
without whose constant help
this book
could not have been written
PREFACE

It is now nine years since the printing of this book began. In its original shape the vocabulary was completed in 1906 together with the first two parts of the series. Parts I and II took two years each to print, the proofs following me about in the Sudan and Abyssinia, where I was continually travelling. By 1910, when the printing of Part III began, I had accumulated much fresh material, which found its way into the book as it passed through the press. Then came more travels in Abyssinia, residence at Gondar, ten days from the nearest post office, and finally the war, when the printing, which had never been rapid, almost came to a standstill.

Thus the book, which as originally planned was on a smaller scale than Guidi’s Vocabolario Amanico-Italiano, now appears in part on a considerably larger scale, a fact for which in the present stage of Amharic studies I need not express regret.

My ideas, however, of what the scheme of an Amharic lexicon should be have been modified in the course of these nine years, and I am now inclined to think that much of Guidi’s matter and more of mine should find its place not in a dictionary but in a condensed form in a grammar. If, that is, the morphology of the language is treated exhaustively in the grammar a very large number of derivative forms may then be omitted from the dictionary. But this series, as its
title indicates, is addressed in the first instance to beginners, liable to be disconcerted by the absence from a dictionary of numerous forms of which the advanced student requires no explanation, his grammatical knowledge automatically providing him with it. On the other hand I am for retaining not only phrases, idioms and proverbs but also such matter as names both of persons and places to a far greater extent than is usual in a Semitic dictionary, at any rate pending the appearance of a dictionary of Abyssinian personal and geographical names.\footnote{Carlo Conti Rossini's Catalogo dei nomi propri di luogo dell'Etiopia, Genoa, 1894, is a good start in this direction.}

This series is primarily intended to describe the spoken tongue; but I find, especially in the present volume, that in doing this one is bound to have regard to the written language as well; what is written may in fact also be said, and therefore also requires description.

As regards the arrangement of materials in an Amharic dictionary, besides the various troublesome points discussed by Guidi in the preface to his Vocabolario other questions arise. Should, for instance, እንቁን ከያይ, snake, also written እንጋ እን ከያይ (ዕብ in Ludolf, ep. ከጋ), be placed under እ or ከንን? The principle on which I began is that roots with an original initial ከንን should be placed under ከንን if the እ- is still pronounced in them or their derivatives, otherwise under እ. Not having heard ከያይ, I placed እንጋ under እ. Subsequently I came across the spelling እንጋ in a modern letter. Guidi places እንጋ and similar words
Preface

under ʰ and does not always refer to them under ṼhrṬ; Sayce, who has kindly discussed this point with me, lays great stress on the importance of etymology and is of opinion that words with original ʰ- should come under ṼhrṬ.

Again, take Ṽvr самостоятельность, and ḥvr самостоятельность, to toil: under which root should the derivatives appear? Both forms are in use and I do not know which is the older. If they are connected with Ṽкк. Ṽкк, as I suggest, then ḥvr самостоятельность will be the older form. And ʰ becomes Ṽ in numerous cases. The inverse change of Ṽ to ʰ, however, occurs also; e.g. I have heard ḥвг for Ṽвг. Even if one had decided whether Ṽvr самостоятельность or ḥvr самостоятельность were the older form, the question would still remain whether the older or newer form should be taken as a standard. In arranging his materials the writer of a dictionary often has to adopt or appear to adopt a current spelling or etymology with which he, not to mention his critics, is by no means satisfied.

The prefaces to the preceding volumes state that I have not followed or set up any artificial standards of speech, but have collected my materials over as wide a field as possible and from every sort of person, provided always that the speaker was an Amhára; and for reasons fully set forth there I have always considered the unconscious contributor to my knowledge preferable to the conscious informant. An Amhára with any pretension to learning readily stigmatizes as ‘not Amharic’, ‘said by slaves’, ‘said by Europeans’, words or expressions with which he is unfamiliar or of which he disapproves. Experience
Preface

in Abyssinia, however, has shown me that this native criticism is of little value. Guidi’s ḏḥtāra Kḥla Gyórgis, though apparently not so narrow-minded as the average ḏḥtāra, would doubtless endorse, if indeed he is not responsible for, many an unnecessary ‘inc.’ (incorrettamente) in Guidi’s Vocabolario and such remarks as “Dai non Amara vi si aggiunge spesso, non correttamente, ḋḥ.” (my italics; Id. ib. s.v. ḋḥ). ḋḥ is of course logically redundant in this case; but I have observed that this use of it is wide-spread among Amháras and have failed to discover any evidence that they have adopted it from non-Amháras.

Ludolf (Gram. Æth. p. vii) says of Ethiopic “Talis est hujus linguae conditio, facilis his, qui reliquas Orientales linguas earumque Grammaticas norunt: difficilis vero ipsis, qui eas ignorant.” The same is true of Amharic, and having quoted Ludolf’s remark I shall, I think, have said enough on the matter of etymology, and need only add that in my notes Egyptian and Assyrian words (in italics) have been taken from the works of Budge, Erman, King and Muss-Arnolt, while modern Arabic (Egyptian, Sudanese and Syrian), Beḍaṭaže, Calla, Nubian and Somali parallels (in Roman type) have been taken down from the mouth of natives of those races in their respective countries; the language of Amharic, Arabic, Hebrew, Syriac, Samaritan, Coptic and Greek words is indicated by the type. I trust that I have given the meaning of every word, and made clear to what language it belongs.

I employ a phonetic alphabet to designate the pronunciation of Amharic, so a few words here about
Preface

phonetics and transliteration will not be out of place. In regard to the transliteration of Amharic, of which I have more than once been accused, I should like to be allowed to state clearly that I do not do it. Ṭįmāṭāl (he strikes) and ṭįmīmāṭāl (he is struck) are not transliterations of ṭįmįmį, but are phonetic designations of two Amharic words, of each of which the Amharic designation is ṭįmįmį. Similarly qārmwō, kāmsgār, āḍālām are not transliterations of qįmį́qį́p, hāyācă, hāyāqį́p, but phonetic representations of words which in Amharic are written qįmį́qį́p, etc. So much for transliteration. As for phonetics, this young science stands before the three sleepers, Simple, Sloth and Presumption, and seeks to wake them. I must thank Canon W. H. T. Gaïrdner of Cairo for telling me of two valuable books: G. Noël-Armfield’s General Phonetics, Cambridge, 1915, and H. E. Palmer’s English Phonetics, Cambridge, 1917. Though I am not prepared to agree offhand with everything¹ these writers say, yet I strongly recommend these books to students of any language, and especially to those who talk or think of transliterating oriental alphabets on easy and simple lines.²

My cordial thanks are due to General Sir Reginald Wingate, H.M. High Commissioner for Egypt, who as

¹ For instance, I do not find it convenient to mark the length of a vowel by a sign resembling a colon, or to indicate the stress accent before instead of when it occurs (pėmit = the verb permit, not the noun permit). Nor am I inclined to dispense with y, ĕ, شاهد, と思います in describing Amharic.

² E.g. in Arabic, if t represents ṭ, ṭ, ș, h ő, sh ő, y ĭ and 1 ʃ, we arrive easily enough at teshōl = teshīl = teshīl.
Governor-General of the Sudan gave linguistic studies every facility compatible with official conditions; to
the late Dr W. A. M. Wakeman, Medical Officer to the
British Legation at Addis Ababa, for supplying me
with identifications of native medical terms; and to Mr
R. E. Massey, Economic Botanist to the Sudan Govern-
ment, for identifying botanical specimens collected in
Abyssinia by my wife. I would also record my grate-
ful appreciation of the invariable benevolence dis-
played by Mr A. R. Waller and of the continuous
attention devoted by the late Mr John Clay and since
his death by Mr J. B. Peace to the tiresome and
unremunerative task of producing this series, which
owes more than I can say to the skill, judgment
and patience of the staff at the Cambridge University
Press, where these qualities as demanded by work of
this particular kind are specially concentrated in
Mr W. J. Foreman.

The list of abbreviations on p. xix shows the writers,
besides those specified on p. x, to whom I am chiefly
indebted. In conclusion let me express once more
my gratitude to those mentioned in the prefaces
to Parts I and II and in especial to such scholars
as Marcel Cohen, Guidi, Reinisch and Sayce for their
advice, assistance and encouragement.

C. H. ARMBRUSTER.

General Head-Quarters,
2nd Echelon, Egyptian Expeditionary Force,
9 April 1919.
CONTENTS

PREFACE .......... vii
ABBREVIATIONS .... xv
Use of Brackets and Hyphens . . xvi
Abbreviations of Authorities cited . . xix
Note on Phonology . . . . xxiv
Note on Amharic Type . . . . xxviii
Corrigenda . . . . . xxix
AMHARIC-ENGLISH VOCABULARY ũ—ũ . . 1
ADDENDA ũ—ũ . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 821
ABBREVIATIONS

abbr. abbreviated, (-tion)
acc. accusative
act. active
Ač. Ačátār
adj. adjective, (-val, -vally)
adv. adverb(ial, -ially)
Ag. Ágān (Áuñí, Am. Agáññ-ñā)
Am. Amharic
an. animate
ap. apud
App. Appendix
approx. approximate(ly)
Ar. Arabic
Aram. Aramaic
art. article
Ass. Assyrian
aux. auxiliary
B. Břégândjr
Bed. Beďauye (To-bďawiyā)
card. cardinal
caus. causative
cfr. confer
comp. compound
compos. composition
conj. conjunction, (-tive)
conjug. conjugation
conn. connected
constr. constructed, (-tion)
cont. contingent (mood)
Cop. Coptic
cp. compare(d, -es)
D. Dámbya
D. see Nub.
Dañ. Dánkali (ʼáf̄ar)
AM. GR. (III)
dat. dative
dem. demonstrative
denom. denominative
det. determined
dim. diminutive
dist. distributive
e.g. exempli gratia
ecl. ecclesiastic(al, -ally)
Eg. Egyptian
emph. emphasis, (-atic, -ically)
eucl. euclitic(ally)
Eng. English
esp. especial(ly)
etc. et cetera
Eth. Ethiopian
euphem. euphemism, (-istic,
-istically)
Eur. European
F. see Nub.
f. feminine
fem. "
fin. final
Fr. French
freq. frequentative
G. G*ójńām
Ga. Gálla (Am. Galláñña)
Gall. " "
gen. general(ly)
Ger. German
Gon. G*óndār (Gondar)
Gr. Greek
Har. Hárqrí (Am. Harqrýñña)
Heb. Hebrew
Hind. Hindustani
Hím. Himyaritic
### Abbreviations

| i. intransitive          | Nub. D. Nubian, Dniiguláwi          |
| i.e. id est              | Nub. F. . „ „ Fyadičča (Fa-, -díja, -díja) |
| ib. ibidem               | Nub. K. „ „ Kánzí                   |
| id. idem                 | Nub. M. „ „ Máhasi                  |
| imp. imperative          | num. numeral                        |
| imperf. imperfect        | obj. object                          |
| impers. impersonal(ly)  | onom. onomatopoeic(ally)            |
| inan. inanimate          | or. origin(al, -ally)               |
| ind. indicative          | ord. ordinal                         |
| indecl. indeclinable     | p. page, passive                     |
| indef. indefinite        | part. participle                     |
| inf. infinitive          | perf. perfect                        |
| inter. interrogative    | Pers. Persian                        |
| interj. interjection    | pers. person(al, -ally)              |
| iron. ironical(ly)      | pl. plural                           |
| It. Italian             | plup. pluperfect                      |
| jud. judicial(ly)       | pol. polite, the form for addressing superiors |
| juss. jussive           | poss. possessive                     |
| K. see Nub.             | pref. prefix(ed)                     |
| l. line                 | pron. pronoun, (-nominal)            |
| Lat. Latin              | prop. properly                       |
| lit. literal(ly)        | prov. proverb(ial, -ially)          |
| M. see Nub., Tč.        | prp. preposition                     |
| m. masculine            | q.v. quod (quae) vide                |
| med. medical(ly)        | r. reflexive                         |
| Meh. Měhrí              | rad. radical(ly)                     |
| mil. military           | recip. reciprocal(ly)                |
| mod. modern             | s. substantive                       |
| neg. negative           |                                       |
| nom. nominative         |                                       |

1 In the etymological notes id. refers to the Amharic word to which the note is appended. If no meaning is given with id. it refers to the meaning as well as to the form of the Amharic word. Thus

- **انيا** kite
  - Tȟa. id., Tč. id. eagle = Tȟa. **انيا** kite, Tč. **انيا** eagle.

- **äänä** to send back
  - ep. Tȟa. id.; Tč. id. to be returned = ep. Tȟa. **äänä** to send back ; Tče. **äänä** to be returned.
### Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>s. v.</td>
<td>sub voce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sab.</td>
<td>Sabæan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sc.</td>
<td>scilicet</td>
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<tr>
<td>sg.</td>
<td>singular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>simp.</td>
<td>simple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Söm.</td>
<td>Sömáli</td>
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<tr>
<td>sp.</td>
<td>species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>subj.</td>
<td>subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>subst.</td>
<td>substantive,(-val,-vally)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Süd.</td>
<td>Soudanese, Arabic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>suff.</td>
<td>suffix(ed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syr.</td>
<td>Syriac</td>
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<tr>
<td>Š.</td>
<td>Shoa</td>
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<tr>
<td>t.</td>
<td>transitive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tal.</td>
<td>Talmudic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tar.</td>
<td>Targumic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tê.</td>
<td>Tigrê (.xaxisa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tê. M.</td>
<td>Tigré of Massaua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Têa.</td>
<td>Tigreña</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>us.</td>
<td>usual(ly)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v.</td>
<td>verb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vet.</td>
<td>veterinary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vocab.</td>
<td>vocabulary, (-ries)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W.</td>
<td>Wolle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wog.</td>
<td>Wogo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y.</td>
<td>Yayju</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. 1st, 2nd, 3rd: the respective persons.
2. √ stem or root. (On the correct use of the term root see Gesenius, Heb. Gram. § 30g.)
3. — long.
4. ◐ very short.
5. — sometimes long, sometimes short.
6. ′ stress accent; words marked with two accents usually have the first when final, the second before another word (§ 8).
7. † not in general use.
8. * theoretical form.
9. = amounts to, is equal to, the same as.
10. § refers to the paragraphs of the Grammar (Part I).
11. Names of plants also denote their flowers and fruits: e.g. ውለስ, s. fig (tree and fruit).

In English

The masculine is intended unless the feminine is specified.

‘You’ is singular unless marked pl.

Verbs of ambiguous voice (stop, turn, change) are transitive unless marked i.
USE OF BRACKETS AND HYPHENS

In English

(a) Inclusive:

Dirt, s. (-ty, adj.) = dirt, s. and dirty, adj. (for which Amharic uses the same word).
He (it) is = he is; also: it is.

(b) Explanatory:

Disposition (character) = disposition in the sense of character.

In Amharic

$id(i)f = if$ and $idf$.
$tiq(i)ss$ = tiqiss$ and tiqss$.

$[\text{ cập }] = \text{ ትምር}$, also $\text{ ትምር}$ and $\text{ ትምር}$.
$s\text{ąbąbbąra$ (-\text{ąy}, -\text{ąr}) = s\text{ąbąbbąra$ ; also s\text{ąyąbbąra$, są-
\text{bąbęra and sąyąbbęra$}, (see \S \text{7d})$.}
ABBREVIATIONS OF AUTHORITIES CITED


Afevork, Men. II. ኢትኡርትናት የትምን ከማህረ ከኡእት ከን የት ይምን ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማህረ ከማ.dense


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...S. R. Driver...and Charles A. Briggs... Oxford, 1906.
Abbreviations of Authorities cited  xxiii

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xxiv

NOTE ON PHONOLOGY

(The following paragraph is quoted from Initia Amharica, Part I.)

Phonetic Alphabet.

§ 3 In order to designate the pronunciation of Amharic as far as possible without ambiguity I employ the following phonetic alphabet. The principle held in view is that one letter should never represent more than one sound, and one sound should not be represented by more than one letter.¹ In regard to the consonants this is a feasible system; but the fluctuating character of some of the short vowels precludes a strict adherence to it, which would involve the use of an impractically large number of letters to represent variations of no essential importance. The indications, then, by means of examples taken from European languages of the value of the sounds which occur are, especially in the case of the vowels, only approximately exact.

With the exception of the ‘explosive’² sounds represented by p, q, ŋ, č, s, and the guttural x (frequently pronounced k by Abyssinians themselves) the pronunciation of Amharic presents little difficulty to an Englishman.

¹ Sir W. Jones (1788) quoted in Lepsius, St. Alph. pp. 31, 32.
² See end of this §.
§ 3] Note on Phonology.

Vowels.

All vowels are pronounced short unless marked

\( \bar{\text{\textbf{\textit{}}} = \text{long}} \), \( \bar{\text{\textbf{\textit{}}} = \text{long or short}} \), \( \bar{\text{\textbf{\textit{}}} = \text{very short}} \).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vowel</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>in It. fatto.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>å</td>
<td>the same lengthened.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ä</td>
<td>e in bet, but more open.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ă</td>
<td>the same lengthened.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>æ</td>
<td>a in formula, e in Fr. le.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ê</td>
<td>the same lengthened.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e</td>
<td>e in bet, but less open.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>è</td>
<td>the same lengthened.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ì</td>
<td>i in It. minuto.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ì</td>
<td>the same lengthened.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ì</td>
<td>i in quick, but pronounced with the lips more closed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ñ</td>
<td>the same lengthened.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ü</td>
<td>u in Fr. absolument.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>œ</td>
<td>a in wash(^1), o in pot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o</td>
<td>o in It. caro, but more open (not o aperto).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ò</td>
<td>the same lengthened.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ù</td>
<td>u in full.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ù</td>
<td>u in It. luna.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\( \bar{\text{\textbf{\textit{}}} a} \) and \( \bar{\text{\textbf{\textit{}}} o} \) represent the same vowel in Amharic (\( \bar{\text{\textbf{\textit{}}} giz} \) § 4). The above examples show, approximately, the commonest pronunciations of this variable vowel. When \( \bar{\text{\textbf{\textit{}}} a} \), \( \bar{\text{\textbf{\textit{}}} o} \) are given as alternatives they represent a gradation of sounds from e in ‘bet’ through approx. u in ‘but’, eu in Fr. neuf, e in Fr. le, ö in Ger. Götter to a in ‘wash’\(^1\) (§ 7d).

\(^1\) Part I says ‘\( \bar{\text{\textbf{\textit{}}} o} = \text{a in was} \)’ : a bad description, for was, though pronounced \( \bar{\text{\textbf{\textit{}}} w} \)z when accented, when unaccented is usually \( \bar{\text{\textbf{\textit{}}} w} \)z.
Note on Phonology.

Diphthongs.

Diphthongs are merely their component vowels pronounced in rapid succession without any intervening hiatus. They are marked \( \sim \). The following approximations are fairly close:

- \( \sim i_i \) i in bite.
- \( \sim a_i \) ai in Ger. Waise.
- \( \sim a_u \) au in Ger. aus.
- \( \sim o_o \) o in no.
- \( \sim o_i \) oy in boy.

Consonants.

- \( \chi \) ch in Ger. noch.
- \( h \) h in he.
- \( q \) an explosive guttural pronounced a little further back than \( k^1 \); the centre of the tongue is raised towards the palate.
- \( k \) k in kin.
- \( g \) g in go.
- \( n \) ng in singing.
- \( t \) tt in hottest, but pronounced with an explosion.
- \( ñ \) sibilant \( ð \), similar to ts in pots, but pronounced with an explosion.
- \( ð \) ch in church, but pronounced with an explosion.
- \( ŝ \) ch in cheese.
- \( š \) sh in she.
- \( ž \) j in Fr. je.

\[ ^{1} \text{but not as far back as Syrian } \mathring{Q}. \]
§ 3] Note on Phonology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>j</td>
<td>j in jam, but the tongue comes nearer the teeth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>y</td>
<td>y in you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n</td>
<td>ñ in Spanish señor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t</td>
<td>dental t, as in Fr. tu.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>dental d, as in Fr. de.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>s</td>
<td>s in so.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>z</td>
<td>z in size.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l</td>
<td>l in let.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>r</td>
<td>r in red.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n</td>
<td>n in no.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p</td>
<td>p in pot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p</td>
<td>p pronounced with an explosion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b</td>
<td>b in be.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f</td>
<td>bilabial f, (the teeth not touching the lips).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>y</td>
<td>bilabial v, b in Spanish arriba.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f</td>
<td>labio-dental, f in fan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v</td>
<td>labio-dental, v in van.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>w</td>
<td>w in wan, but the lips are more open: u in It. uomo.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^{h, y, w,}\) are \(h, y, w,\) pronounced very slightly, \(y\) and \(w\) almost merged into the adjacent vowel (§ 7/2), and \(h\) final tending to disappear. \(y\) and \(w\) may be regarded as the consonantal forms of \(i\) and \(u\) respectively; after a vowel they often pass into those vowels and form diphthongs (e.g. \(y\) in layer, \(w\) in lower): \(a+y=aīa,\)
\(a+wa=āua;\) similarly \(i\) and \(u\) when doubled (§ 6) become \(yy,\) \(ww\) (\(uw\)).

\(q, p, t, s, ē\) are pronounced with emphasis, and appear to be separated from a following vowel by a slight explosion of breath. They are radically different from \(k, p, t, s, ē.\)
xxviii

Note. In etymological and other notes the following have also been used:—

\[\begin{align*}
\check{\epsilon} &= \epsilon \\
\check{\mu} &= \mu \\
\check{\eta} &= \eta \\
\check{\xi} &= \xi \\
\check{\chi} &= \chi \\
\check{\upsilon} &= \upsilon \\
\check{\varepsilon} &= \varepsilon \\
\check{\zeta} &= \zeta
\end{align*}\]

NOTE ON AMHARIC TYPE

In the founts used in this volume distinguish between

\[\begin{align*}
\text{v} &\quad \text{and} \quad \text{u} \\
\text{h} &\quad \text{and} \quad \text{b} \\
\text{h} &\quad \text{and} \quad \text{b} \\
\text{h} &\quad \text{and} \quad \text{b}
\end{align*}\]