full original forms of the Otji-
herero prefixes.

A	I	U
Guttural or palatal division.		
Ka-13, 17 Ka-ma-6	Ki-7 Ki-mi-9	Ku-15, 17 Ku-mu-1
Labial division.		
Va-2 Pa-16	Vi-8 Vi-mi-4	Vu-14 Vu-mu-3 Mu-18
Dental or Lingual division.		
Tha-ma 10	Ri-5	Ru-11 Tu-12

Bleek's Hereroo notes

Note. the preceding pages form part of a more extensive paper on the original form and meaning of the South African Bantu (especially Otjiherero) prefixes. J. W. Kolbe.

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1. the following are the prefixes of nouns in Otjiherero, with their corresponding pronouns in juxtaposition. The prefixes are grouped together according to their mutual affinity. the numbers refer to Dr. W. Bleek's Comparative Grammar.

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Prefix	Pers. pron.	Demonstr. pron.
oka- 13	ke	in-ga
oku- 15	ku	in-gu-i
otyi- 7	tyi	i-hi, in-dyi
oma- 6	(k)e	in-ga
omu- 1	(k)u	in-gu-i
on- 9	(k)i	in-dyi
ova- 2	ve	im-ba
ou- 14	(v)u	im-bu-i
ovi- 8	vi	im-bi
omu- 3	(v)u	im-bu-i
omi- 4	vi	im-bi
oru- 11	ru	in-du-i
e- 5	ri	in-di
ozon- 10	ze	in-da
otu- 12	tu	i-su-i
opo- 16	pe	im-ba
oko- 17	ke, ku	in-ga, in-gu-i
omo- 18	mu	mu-i

2. The initial vowel o which is found in all prefixes except the fifth (e-) and which is a sort of article, seems originally to have been a. To this conclusion we are led by viewing the table of the Kongo prefixes in Dr. Bleek's Grammar, p. 224. The prefix e in Otyiherero seems not a contraction of ori but of a-iri. Let us compare the Kongo, Zulu and Herero prefixes.

Zulu	Kongo	Herero
	ka-	oka-
uku-	oku- (a-uku)	oku-
isi-	eki- (a-iki)	otyi-
ama-	oma-	oma-
umu-	omu- (a-umu)	omu-
in, im-	en- (a-in-) on-	on-, om-
aba-	a-, oa-	ova-
ubu-	ou- (a-ubu)	ou-
	ei- (a-ibi)	ovi-
umu-	omu- (a-umu)	omu-
imi-	emi- (a-imi)	omi-
ulu-	lu-	oru-
ili-	eri (a-iri)	e-
izin-	ezin- (a-izin)	ozon-
	otu- (a-utu)	otu-

From this table it appears that the prefixed o originated from a clashing between a and u, and e is a contraction of a and i. In otyihesero the vowel o gained the ascendency, and was generally adopted, with the exception of the single prefix e (5) which seems to have been retained in order to distinguish this class from nouns of the 9th (on-, om-, o-) gender, e-hose, tear, for instance, from o-hose, spg. The Herero prefix e- seems nothing else but a remnant of the identical Kongo prefix ei. There must have been a time when the Herero prefixes otyi-, ovi-, omi- were pronounced etyi-, evi, emi- as in Kongo. Thus we have in the prefixed e (ai) and o (au) in the Bunda genus a sort of double article, the primitive simple article, preserved in the Zulu prefixes umu-, isi-, ili- &c, having been joined by a prefixed demonstrative a, with the result that au became o and ai e, viz. a-umu, omu; a-uru oru; a-isi esi &c.

3. Some of the prefixes must have been different originally from what they are now. This opinion to which I have entertained for years, I find also stated by Dr. Bleek (Comp. Gr. p. 285). The forms omu 1, oma 6, on, om 9, omu 3, omi 4 were not ma, mu, mi originally, but they must have had besides the letter m, consonants which have been lost, though they have been preserved in the corresponding demonstrative pronouns. It is clear that the prefixes of the nouns and the corresponding pronouns are identical. It may therefore be laid down as a rule that the consonant of the pronoun must originally have been found also in the corresponding prefix, and if that prefix was a double one, in the first part of the compound prefix. In searching for the primitive form and meaning of the prefixes, it is of great importance to bear this in mind. Of the compounding of prefixes there are still many traces in the

language, as, for example, e-ruka, anger, ovi-e-ruka, pride, haughtiness, omu-inyo, breath, spirit, oru-mu-inyo, air, gentle breeze. Now in the case of such double forms as ovi-e-, oru-mu-, the pronoun corresponds to the first of the two combined prefixes, viz.

e-ruka in-di, anger this
ovi-e-ruka in-bi, pride this

omu-inyo im-bu-i, breath this
oru-mu-inyo in-du-i, air this

oru-vio in-du-i, knife this
oka-ru-vio in-ga, little knife this.

4. Following this rule, we are led to the conclusion that the 1st omu- was originally Ku-mu*, oma-6 must have been Ka-ma, on-, om-9, Ki-mi; the second omu-3, bu-mu, omi 4 bi-mi. Let us again cast a glance on these prefixes in connection with their

corresponding pronouns.

Prefix	pers. pron.	demon. pron.
oma 6	e (ka)	in-ga
omu 1	u (ku)	in-gu-i
on, om 9	i (ki)	in-dyi (in-gi)
omu 3	u (vu)	im-bu-i
omi 4	vi	im-bi

*Note. This opinion I held when I was still in Damaraland, some twenty years ago. It is interesting to me to find that so distinguished a scholar as Dr. Bleek has arrived, independently, at a similar conclusion, but he supposes the primitive form to have been "something like ngua-". (Comp. Gr. p. 536). My friend Dr. Rath, after having seen Dr. Bleek's book, was also struck with this coincidence and wrote to me, in a letter dated 2d August 1869: "Das Präfix omu (1), meint Dr. Bleek, war in früherer Zeit ngua. Hat er das von Dir? Wenn ich nicht irre, hast Du im Damaralande auch den Gedanken ausgesprochen."

Now according to rule, the pronominal forms ga, gu, dyi (gi), or ka, ku, ki must have had, originally, their places respectively in oma 6, omu 1, on, om 9, and as for obvious reasons neither a commutation of m into k, nor an amalgamation of two genders so different as ka and ma is probable, the safest way seems to be to abide by the rule we find in the language and to conclude that omu 1, oma 6, on, om 9, omu 3 and omi 4 are <u>double</u> prefixes, viz.

Prefix	pers. pron.	Dem. pron.
Ka-ma 6	ka	in-ga
Ku-mu 1	ku	in-gu
Ki-mi 9	ki	in-gi
Bu-mu 3	bu	in-bu
Bi-mi 4	bi	in-bi

5. Suppose this to be correct, the prefixes must be arranged under two heads, simple and compound prefixes.

Simple prefixes.

Herero	Zulu
oka- 13	
oku- 15	uku-
otyi- 7	isi-
ova- 2	aba-
ou- 14	ubu-
ovi- 8	
oru- 11	ulu-
e- 5	ili-
otu- 12	

Compound prefixes.

oma- 6	ama-
omu- 1	umu-
on, om- 9	in, im-
omu- 3	umu-
omi- 4	imi-
otjon, otjom- 10	itjin, itjim-

6. It is not impossible that the initial vowel of the Kafir prefixes ama, umu, in, ulu, ili &c. dates its origin from the time when the first consonant of the double prefixes of the guttural and labial division disappeared, when

Kama, Kimi, Kumu, Bimi, Bumu, became
ama-6, im-9, umu-1, imi-4, umu-3.

these prefixes, in their mutilated form, beginning with a vowel (which became a sort of article), the custom of prefixing a vowel was naturally extended to the simple prefixes Ka, Ki, Ku, Li, Lu &c. which were forthwith pronounced, in conformity with ama, umu &c., aka 13, iki 7, uku 15, ili 5, ulu 11 &c. Dr. Bleek takes a different view in §§ 461-466 of his Comparative Grammar.*

* Note.
It appears to me that in the "so-called causal case" (it is, by), alluded to in § 462

Note continued
of the Comparative Grammar, two forms have coalesced, namely a pronoun of the 7th neuter class Ki, it, with a demonstrative meaning like that (that is the very man, instead of he is the very man), and secondly, a preposition viz. the parallel i-form of the preposition Ku and Ka, which i-form (Ki, ngi, i) must have originally signified from, from within, or out, being thus a fit sign for expressing the cause of actions. In Otyihorero, for example, the i in "ba hindira imuhona, I am sent by the chief, properly from or out of him, that is, by his will) is different from imuhona! that is indeed a chief. See Rahn's Herero Grammar § 56. It is thus probable that in the examples in § 462 of the Comparative Grammar, li-li-fu, si-si-fuba &c. no preposition (ngi, Ki) has disappeared, but the difference between li-li-fu (Kafir) and Ki-li-fu (Setshuana) is something like the difference between he is indeed

7. If it is admitted that the 1st (mu), 3d (mu), 4th (mi) & 6th (ma) are compound forms, the seeming irregularity in their respective correspondences is easily accounted for, or rather, not irregularity remains to be explained. Then we need not suppose (Comp. Grammar §§ 408, 409) that w in wetu (Kafir) is derived from mu in muetu (Isubu) or y in yetu (Kafir) from mi in mietu (Isubu), but the case stands thus. The full original forms were

bu-mu-ti bu-mu-a-itu, tree of us, ours
bi-mi-ti bi-mi-a-itu, trees of us, ours

Note continued.
a hero" & "that is indeed a hero," or the German "der ist ein held" & "das ist ein held"; thus zi zim-ou means "sie (sind) schafe" ki kin-ku, "das (sind) schafe", ba bantu, "sie (sind) menschen" ng-aba-ntu "das (sind) menschen".

Now in Herero and Kafir, the first part of these prefixes, bu (Kafir w, Herero vu), bi (Herero vi, Kafir (v changed into) y) is repeated, but in Isubu we have the second part mu, mi, or, which amounts to the same, the whole of the mutilated prefix, as it now exists.

Herero } vumu-ti w-etu
Kafir } vimi-ti vi-etu or y-etu

Isubu } vumu-ti mu-etu
Kongo } vimi-ti mi-etu

In like manner the seemingly irregular correspondences of mu (Ku-mu 1) and ma (Ka-ma 6) become clear. In some dialects, the first part (Ku, gu, u, o 1; Ka, ga, a, o 6) is repeated, but in others the second part or the whole prefix in its present incomplete shape, mu 1, ma 6.

8. The following table presents a view of what may be considered to be the