

The consonantal sounds of the Kootenay are:—

d, t, as in English. Often pronounced, however, more forcibly as *t'*, *d'*.

g, k, as in English. Often pronounced, however, more forcibly as *g'*, *k'*.

g, k, very guttural *g* and *k*, written by some authorities *gr* and *kr*. Uttered more forcibly as *g'*, *k'*.

gy, ky; *q*, German *ch* in *Bach*; *q* approximately the same sound, but slightly less guttural; *n*, German *ch* in *ich*; *h* as in English; *y* as in English; *p* (uttered more forcibly as *p'*), *m*, *w*; *n*; *s* as in English; *c*=English *sh*; *ts*; *tc*=English *ch* in *church*; *dj*=English *j*; *tl*, explosive *l*, *dl* (dorso-apical); *l*.

The chief consonantal equivalents are:—

q = q = h = h; *ts = tc = s = c*;
tl = dl; *d = t*; *g = g*; *k = k*.

The Kootenays can pronounce some of the letters which are not in their own language. The following lists, the one of French proper names bestowed on the Kootenays and their phonology as given by them, the other of English words, which the writer had the Indians pronounce after him time and time again in order to be sure of the phonetics, may be of some value:—

I.			
French	Kootenay	French	Kootenay
Pierre	<i>Piel.</i>	Fabien	<i>Bä'hiën'.</i>
Joseph	<i>Sösep.</i>	Adrien	<i>Atlä'n.</i>
Gabriel	<i>Käplä'e'l.</i>	Urban	<i>U'lhä(n).</i>
Sophie	<i>Söpi.</i>	Marie	<i>Mäli.</i>
Paris	<i>Pä'is.</i>	St. Pierre	<i>Säp'iel.</i>
François	<i>Bläswä.</i>	Antoine	<i>Atöwä'(n).</i>
St. Louis	<i>Säl'nä.</i>	Patrick	<i>Pätlik.</i>
Nicholas	<i>Nikëä'la.</i>		

II.			
English	Kootenay's rendering	English	Kootenay's rendering
bacon	<i>pë'kën.</i>	Johannie	<i>Tco'nä.</i>
Bob	<i>Böp.</i>	log	<i>lö'k.</i>
Bonner's Ferry	<i>Be'mes Fä'h.</i>	lumber	<i>le'mbr.</i>
bread	<i>bled.</i>	mission	<i>mí'sën.</i>
buffalo	<i>bü'palö.</i>	mush, (i.e. porridge)	<i>mës.</i>
caribou	<i>kä'libü.</i>	Nelson	<i>No'lsën.</i>
chipmunk	<i>ci'tmrf.</i>	nine	<i>nä'i.</i>
cigarette	<i>siglä't.</i>	owl	<i>ä'ül.</i>
coffee	<i>kö'pë.</i>	pepper	<i>pe'pën.</i>
corn	<i>k'ä'en.</i>	père (Fr.)	<i>päl.</i>
crackers	<i>tlä'kas.</i>	pocket	<i>pä'ket.</i>
croak	<i>tlök.</i>	potato	<i>pët'të.</i>
damn	<i>täm.</i>	rain	<i>lën.</i>
den	<i>dän.</i>	rapid	<i>lä'pit.</i>
deer	<i>dä'ë.</i>	rice	<i>lais.</i>
eleven	<i>le'bën.</i>	ride	<i>laid.</i>
ferry	<i>fä'lä.</i>	river	<i>li'hë.</i>
fire	<i>pä'ie; fä'ie.</i>	rock	<i>lök.</i>
fish	<i>pis; fis.</i>	run	<i>lën.</i>
five	<i>fäi.</i>	Rykert	<i>lä'iket.</i>
flour	<i>plü'uf.</i>	salt	<i>sä'el.</i>
fly	<i>pläi.</i>	Sand Point	<i>Sän Pö'i.</i>
fork	<i>fäk.</i>	seven	<i>se'bën.</i>
Fort Steele	<i>Fö'të Stël.</i>	six	<i>sik.</i>
frog	<i>flok.</i>	skunk	<i>shën-k (no g sound).</i>
good	<i>güt.</i>	sleep	<i>sip.</i>
grass	<i>gläs.</i>	snore	<i>snö'el.</i>
hiss	<i>hës.</i>	spring	<i>splün.</i>
hit	<i>hët.</i>	store	<i>stö'el.</i>
horse	<i>hä'es.</i>	straight	<i>trët.</i>