VOL. V.

û as in but, hut: matûpî = a person.

w as in wish: awanio = he says.

ks as x in wax, and ks in books: as akeks = women. maksinûm = cross.

y as in you: as moyis = a lodge.

tc as ch in church, and tch in match: as tcanistapi = what is it.

matcapsio = he is foolish.

kw as q in quick, quart : as akekwân = a girl. kainakwân = a Blood Indian.

kamakwan — a biood Indian.

The following sounds, as expressed by their respective letters in the English language, have no equivalent in Blackfoot, namely: b, d, f, g, j, l, v, z.

The sounds belonging to the alphabet never change, so that when once understood and memorized one great difficulty is overcome. There are no silent letters, every vowel and consonant having its own appropriate sound. When two or more vowels come together they must be pronounced separately, unless forming diphthongs in accordance with the alphabet. I have thought it best to dispense with the use of the hyphen in connecting syllables, as a little more care bestowed upon the grammatical construction of the language will enable anyone to distinguish the syllables, and thus be saved the trouble arising from the transition to connected reading.

ACCENTUATION.

Many of the difficulties of pronunciation can only be grasped by a practical acquaintance with the language. The interpretations of some words are changed by the change of accent, and also by a more emphatic pronunciation of the word in full. The *acute* accent is used to point out the syllable or vowel upon which the stress is to be laid, as: nitsémani = I am speaking the truth, oqké = water.

Excessive prolongation of a vowel changes the sense of the word. This strong emphasis or prolongation is designated by a \times placed under the emphatic letter, as a, o.

Oma = there.

Oma [°] ≅ yonder.

Aqse = good.

Ekskaqse = very good.

Ekskaqse = very, very good.

There is a half vowel sound which is denoted by a comma below the vowel, as: kia = come on, or, let us go.

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