

The following represent the exceptions to the rule both in form and in numerical proportion : —

ENGLISH.	LESGHIAN.	OTHER FORMS.
yellow	tlela	dula, <i>Lesghian</i> .
day	tlyal	thyal, tehza! "
horn	tlar	adar, <i>Basque</i> .
knee	tlon	belauu "

From the preceding examples it appears that the Lesghian sounds represented by *tl*, *thl*, *ntl*, are the equivalents of *r* and *l* generally, and sometimes of *d* or *t*. The latter exception probably finds its explanation in Basque, for in the dialects of that language an occasional permutation of *r* and *l* into *t* and *d* takes place. Thus *ideki* to take away, becomes *ireki*, and *iduzki* the sun, becomes *iruzki*, while *elur* snow, sometimes assumes the form *edur*, and *belar* grass, that of *bedar*. The last exception cited, that in which the Lesghian *tlon* is compared with the Basque *belauu*, is really no exception, for *elaun* is the true representation of *tlon*, the initial *b* being prosthetic to the root, as is frequently the case in Basque. Among many examples that might be given, I may simply cite *belar* the ear, as compared with the Mizjeji *lerk*.

Turning now to the Aztec, on the supposition that it is related to the Basque and Caucasian languages, we naturally expect to find on comparison a coincidence of roots and even of words following upon the recognition of *tl* and *ntl* as the equivalents of *r* and *l* in these forms of speech. The fact that the Aztec alphabet is deficient in the letter *r* favours such an expectation. But our comparison must be made with due caution. Any one who has examined a Mexican dictionary, such as that of Molina, must have been struck with the remarkable preponderance of words commencing with the letter *t* over those beginning with any other letter of the alphabet. These words comprise considerably more than one third of the whole lexicon. A certain explanation of this is found in the fact that the two particles *te* and *tila* possess, the former an indefinite personal, and the latter a substantive, signification, and thus enter largely into the structure of compound words. Whatever its grammatical value in Aztec, however, it appears, on comparing the Aztec vocabulary with its related forms of speech, that initial *t* or *te*, which leaving *tl* out of account still occupies one fifth of the lexicon, is frequently prosthetic to the root.

The following are some of the chief laws of phonetic change derived