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The earliest list of Russian Lapp words.

The following list of Russian Lapp words was taken down by an Englishman in the year 1557. It is therefore only 15 years later than the appearance of Bishop Agricola’s ABC book and nearly 320 years earlier than A. Genetz’s scientific study of the Ter Lapp dialects. It was first published by Richard Hakluyt in „The principall navigations, voiages and discoveries of the English nation made by Sea or over Land &c.“ London, 1589. At page 326 is the following heading: „The voyage of Master Stephen Burrough, An. 1557 from Colmogro (Kolmogory near Archangel) to Wardhouse, which was sent to seek the Bona Esperanza and the Bona Confidentialia and the Philip and Mary which were not heard of the yeere before“.

Leaving Colmogro on Sunday May 23 1557, Captain Burrough rounded cape Sotinoz (Svjatoi Nos) on Tuesday June 22, but was forced by stress of weather to seek for a harbour and found good anchorage with protection from all winds between Sth John’s islands and the main land in latitude 68° 1 minute. In the course of the afternoon 16 Lapps, including two women, rowed off in a boat and paid him a visit on board his ship. Some of them could speak Russian. He enquired where they lived, and was informed that a band or company of them, numbering about a hundred men not including women and children, dwelt not far off on the river Jekonga (Jokonga). They told him they had been to seek food among the rocks and he adds: „I saw them eat rocke weedes as hungerly as a cowe doeth grasse when she is hungrie“. He also noticed them eating bird’s eggs raw, and even the unhatched birds that they contained. As he sailed
on the morning of the 25th, his intercourse with the Lapps at the most extended over a space of two days and a half. But his interest in their language had been excited, for he prefaces the list of Lapp words as follows: "I observed certain words of their language, which I thought good to set down for their use that hereafter shall have occasion to continue this voyage".

Though Burrough's contact with the Lapps was of short duration, though he had to contend with the enormous difficulty attached to recording accurately the sounds of a wholly strange language at a single sitting, and though therefore the results of his labours are full of short comings, they are devoid neither of interest nor of a small *modicum* of positive gain. As phonetics and philology were unknown sciences in his day, it is impossible to expect that he should always have seized the exact colour of every vowel sound. But he would not write *ft* to express *kt*, nor *s* or *t* when he heard *č*, for all these sounds were quite familiar to him. It is unfortunate that the M.S. used by Hakluyt has been lost, for reference to it would clear up many doubtful readings, some of them undoubtedly printer's errors, such as we find at no 1, 6, 8, 36, 39, 41, 44, 48, 55, 57, 69, 74, 78, 93.

Any system of notation in which English vowel sounds are employed leaves much to desire. But as it is important to ascertain as nearly as possible the value of the symbols used by Captain Burrough, I have consulted the most authoritative book on the subject, R. Ellis's "*On early English Pronunciation*", published for the philological Society in 1869. From this we learn that in the 16th century the English short vowels *a*, *e*, *i*, *o*, *u* and the diphthongs *ai*, *au*, *oi*, *ei*, had the same sound, or nearly so, as in Finnish; *ay*, *oy*, *ey* were the equivalents of *ai*, *oi*, *ei* respectively; *ã* had the same sound as in Finnish, but was not specially marked; the combinations *ea*, *ee*, *oa*, *ou* (*ow*) stood for *F. ē* (open), *ī*, *ō* (open), *ā*; *eu* (*ew*), with the stress on the last member, was pronounced like *F. ju, and also as *ã*; *ue* in auslaut had a similar pronunciation to *eu* (*ew*); *ie* in inlaut had the sound of *F. ē*, though in some words of *F. į*, in auslaut *ie* (*ye*) had an indistinct, slurred sound between *i* and *e*, but as *i* was also used for the semivowel *j*, in transcribing foreign words.
it may also have sometimes had the value of F. je; ae was not used in the 16th century in native words, but in Latin words it had the sound of F. è. In English words an e mute at the end of a word was even then of constant occurrence and this, in monosyllables, lengthened the vowel in the preceding syllable. We should hardly expect to find this usage employed in the transcription of foreign words, but still it may have occurred, for instance at n:o 32, 60. It must also be remembered that though the above combinations of vowels had the normal sound of a single long vowel, yet when used in a foreign language each vowel may have had its own short sound, e.g. n:o 15, 18, 20, 30, 37, 67.

The semivowels F. j, v, were written i, u. With regard to the consonants, gh sounded χ, h; c before a guttural vowel = k, before a palatal vowel = s; ch = č; sh = š; d may sometimes have had the sound of ď, as Burrough in his narrative uses both 'fathom' and 'fadem' indiscriminately.

As I have never studied the Lapp language, I confine my remarks to a few obvious points of interest. Compared with the modern Jokonga dialect, as presented by A. Genetz, the older specimens exhibit signs both of greater age and of greater phonetic decay. To begin with the former. The Ter Lapp inessive -etl, NL. -ta, when it implies motion, is really a truncated illative, for n:o 40 Cosam volka, „whither go you“, evidently stands for „kozan volka(χ)“., as the n sounded m before v. In auslaut an older -a is preserved in the nom. sing. where T. now has -e, see n:o 9, 14, 15, 16, 54(?), 55(?). Again -a, -e is retained where T. has lost its vowel auslaut altogether, see n:o 17, 61, 6(?), 7, 23, 52, 68, 70, 73, 76. A vowel auslaut is maintained in -s, -š stems, perhaps in n:o 32, certainly in n:o 37. Palatisation of k, s, t had not made the same strides that it has since done; k is used for a modern č, n:o 30; s for č n:o 13; t for č n:o 17, 20, 95; d for č n:o 74 (84, 92).

On the other hand there are some losses, real or apparent. Auslaut -e is lost at n:o 27, 95, though retained in T.; n is lost before t in the ordinal numbers, n:o 76, (94), though in this it agrees with the dialects of Notozero and Akkala. The final k or more probably χ of the 2 sg. pres. is not shewn at n:o 40, though
doubtless through inadvertence. The nom. plural seems to have lost its original consonantal auslaut in n:o 16, 23, 65, if they are really plural forms, in which case the final t in n:o 60 must be the infinitive or partitive plural. Before the stop consonants t, č, c, every k becomes f or x. For a modern T. kt we find ft (n:o 68), xt (n:o 79); for T. kč we have xt (n:o 17); for T. kc we have fc (n:o 75). In the combination ks, k remains (n:o 47, 48, 58), though perhaps there is an exception at n:o 6, where Iomme lemaufes, „I thank you“, seems to me to stand for Iommele maufs(a) T. Jimmel mäksa „God will repay“. Voiced consonants are used where T. preserves them unvoiced, thus b for p (n:o 57, 59); d for t (n:o 66); ď for t (n:o 2, 3); z for an older s (n:o 37, 40).

The terminations -ae, -ue [-ju, -ũ] in 54 tennae tin, 55 vestke copper, are hard to explain. Probably -ue is a misprint for -ae and then one explanation serves for both. They cannot be adjectives comparable with N. L. dañnai, vaetkkai, for ae never had the sound of ai in any English word. The alternative pronunciation of -e is also beset with difficulty. My own impression is that here the -e is silent and that we ought to read tenna, veska. An i and a u were never allowed to stand at the end of a word, but were always followed by a silent e. Words ending in -a hardly existed in English, and on that account Burrough, following the analogy of final -i -u, may here have added an -e involuntarily, though he has certainly allowed -a to stand in several other examples.

In giving Captain Burrough's list of Lapp words, the only change I have made is to modernize the spelling of the English words. For convenience of reference I have prefixed a number to each, and added in square brackets what seems to me to be the intended pronunciation of the Lapp vocables. The modern Ter Lapp and other Russian Lapp forms are taken from A. Genetz's Kola Lapp Dictionary and the few Norwegian and Swedish forms (N. L. and S. L.) from Friis's Dictionary. A comparison between this list and the corresponding T. words makes it evident that the existing inhabitants of the Jokonga river are not the direct descendants of the Lapps with whom Burrough came in contact. These latter must have come from further west or south west.
1. Cowghtie coteat [kúxtě cotět] what call you this? [?]
4. Anna farewell. K. g,nn, A. a,n, a,nn 2 sg. imper. permit (me).
5. Teyrue [teirve] good morrow. N. tieru! good day!
6. Iomme lemaufes [jommele maufs(?)] I thank you; literally God will repay (?).
8. Olmuelke [olmu elke] a man. T. olměj, A. olmoš, K. olmuńč a human being. Elke stands for alke a son (?).
10. Alke a son. T. a,lke.
11. Neit a daughter or young wench. T. nįjt, N. niejt.
31 Murr wood. T. mîrr, K. mürr.
33 Ariea [ar`ja, ariə] an oar. T. ārja, N. ajr.
34 Nurr a rope. T. nhûre, K. mürr.
36 Hyr (?) a night. T. jîjî, K. ejj, īj.
38 Manna the Moon. T. mānna.
39 Laste stars. T. tāste (l is an evident misprint).
40 Coasam volka [kovan volka(χ)] whither go you? T. kozî vilkok.
41 Ottasp [ottap] sleep. Jok. oottep we sleep, we shall sleep, T. voote- (oa), K. woote- to sleep.
42 Tallye [tâlə] that. cf. T. ta,le = ta,tte li there is, it is.
43 Keiedde pieu [keidde peive] a week. keiedde is evidently a short form of keydem 7 (no: 92).
44 Iskie [iskke] a year. T. jîkke, N. chk, K. ėkk. The s must be a printer's error.
45 Kesse sommer. T. kiesse, A. kess.
47 Lıaksam [jûksam, ŋûksam] cold. RL. jîksem, NL. òaskem.
51 Keatikye [kêtké] a stone. T. kie,tké (ea).
52 Sellowpe [sêlp*pe] silver. T. sîlp, selp, NL. silba.
53 Solda gold. sosomo.
54 Tennaie [tenna, tennê] tin. T. ta,nne, N. to,nn.
55 Veske [vesckju, veske] copper. T. vie,ške (ea), NL. veikke (u a misprint for a?).
The earliest list of Russian Lapp words.

60  Ieauerget /jeuegøet, jëvioeë/ meal. T. jauve, NL. javho, pl. javok.

(The g no doubt should be gh and the word is in the plural).

61  Pemckka /piükka/ the wind. T. piük, K. piük.


63  Kemmne /këmmne/ a kettle. T. kimne (ie). N. kiëmn.

64  Keestes /këstes/ gloves. T. kistes, kistes.

65  Sapese shoes. T. sëhpe."
Bemerkungen zum Obigen.

Herr John Abercromby hat sich ein neues Verdienst um die finnisch-ugrische Sprachforschung erworben, indem er das älteste russisch-lappische Sprachdenkmal aus der Vergessenheit hervorgeholt und einer kritischen Behandlung unterzogen hat (*). Auch kann ich in sein Endurtheil ohne Weiteres einstimmig, dass nämlich die jetzigen jokongaschen Lappen, welche ihre Sommerstation an der Mündung des Jokonga-flusses haben, im Herbst und Winter aber mehrere Meilen südöstlich von dort wohnen, nicht direkte Abkömmlinge derjenigen Lappen sind, mit denen Kapitän Burrough in Berührung kam, sondern dass diese letztgenannten mehr von Westen (oder Südwesten) her gekommen sein dürften.

Die burroughschen Sprachproben zeigen nämlich — so schwankend und unzuverlässig seine Lautbezeichnung auch ist — eine entschiedene Uebereinstimmung mit dem jetzigen kildinschen (resp. semiostrowschen) Dialekt und weichen eben so bestimmt von dem terschen ab; z. B.

Da Herr A. aber meint, wichtige Schlüsse hinsichtlich der Lautentwicklung im Russisch-Lappischen auf Grund der burrougschen Liste machen zu können, so kann ich ihm nicht beistimmen, weil ich kein einziges sicheres Beispiel einer älteren Lautstufe bei B. gefunden habe. So kann Cozam volka, „whither go you“, eher für koze mun volka d. h. „wohin ich gehe“, als für „kozam volka(χ)“ stehen, weil es, wie jeder praktische Sprachforscher weiß, beinahe Regel ist, dass ein ungeschulter Sprachmeister die 2. te Person des Originalsatzes auf sich selbst bezieht und mit der 1.sten übersetzt, und vice versa. — Das anlautende ţ in čuṭt, čuṭc, ča,lm (Burr. tewet, keatse, cyelme) hat sich nicht in den letzten dreihundert Jahren aus resp. t, k, s entwickelt, denn es ist gemeinlappisch und also um viele hundert Jahre älter. Die schwankende Bezeichnung desselben bei B. muss derart erklärt werden, dass sein engl. ch mit dem lapp. č nicht iden-
tisch war. — Gemeinlappisch, obwohl in den westlichen Kola-lappischen Dialekten später geschwunden, ist auch das auslautende e statt ursprünglichem a in Wörtern wie T. śəu,ßen, śə,ılm, pə,ınn, tə,ınn, vıe,ısk. Die burroughschen Formen nenna, nealma, pannea, tennae, veskue (statt veskea?) müssen also śə,ını(e), śə,ılm(e), pə,ını(e), tə,ını(e), vıe,ısk(e) (oder vielleicht śınnam, śəılmam, pəınnam meine Nase, mein Mund, mein Zahn) gelaunt haben, denn es kann nicht einmal in Frage gestellt werden, dass das urlappische auslautende a hier bewahrt worden sei. Ebenso ist der Endvokal in B. vannace ganz gewiss stumm, denn der konsonantisch auslautende Nominativ ist nicht nur gemeinlappisch, sondern viel älter: finn. venes, vene’, mordv. venš.

Das interessanteste Ergebniss einer Untersuchung der burroughschen Sprachproben ist meines Erachtens die Thatsache, dass der betreffende russisch-lappische Dialekt sich während eines Zeitraums von mehr als 300 Jahren ziemlich unverändert erhalten hat.