

several languages of the authors, whose remarks upon the Indian dialects may fall within his observation (which remarks too are often rendered still further unintelligible by being read in a translation) he will be very likely to imagine, that the words of a single dialect, as he sees them written by a German, a Frenchman, or an Englishman, belong to languages as widely different as those of his several authors. When, for example, a mere English reader finds the familiar names of the *Creeks* and the *Choctaws*, the *Wabash* and the *Washita*, with many others, disguised by the French writers under the strange garb of *Kriques*, and *Tchactas*, *Ouabache* and *Ouachita*, &c. ; and, among the German authors, the letters *G*, *J*, *T*, and *Z* used to express sounds which we should denote by *C*, *Y*, *D*, and *TS*, as in the words *Ganata* for *Canada*, *Japewi* for *Yapewi*, *N'mizi* for *N'meetsee*, with innumerable others ; (to say nothing of the totally different sounds from ours usually given by foreign writers to all the *vowels* of the Roman alphabet)—when a mere English reader, I say, finds the very same words thus variously written, he will at first view suppose that they are the names and languages of so many different tribes of Indians.*

* In addition to these national differences of orthography, the Rev. Mr. Heckewelder (in reply to Mr. Du Ponceau's inquiries respecting the orthography of the *German* writers) mentions a very singular reason for the irregularities observable in their use of the letters *c*, *g*, and *k* : " Sometimes (says he) the letters *c* and *g* are used in writing the Delaware language instead of *k*, to shew that this consonant is not pronounced too hard ; but, in general, *c* and *g* have been used as substitutes for *k*, because our printers had not a sufficient supply of types for that character." *Correspondence of Heckewelder and Du Ponceau*, p. 382. The state of our country at the present day is such, that this will no longer be an apology for the irregularity in question. It may be added, as Mr. Du Ponceau justly remarks in a letter to me, that " a German ear, unless very delicate, does not ordinarily discriminate between *k* or *c* hard, and *g*, between *p* and *b*, nor between *d* and *t*. To a German only would it have occurred, to substitute *g* for *k*."