

F.

The letter *F*, whenever it shall be wanted, will have its usual power. But probably there will not be much use for it in many of the Indian dialects; for Mr. Heckewelder observes of the *Delaware* language, which is the basis of many others, that it has "no such consonants as the German *w*, or English *v*, *F*, or *r*."*

G, GH, GS.

The letter *G*, whatever vowel may happen to follow it, should invariably have the sound, which we call in English its *hard* sound; and which it generally has before *a*, *o* and *u*, in the European languages as well as our own. This power of *G* is commonly traced back no farther than the times of our Saxon ancestors; but scholars have supposed, and upon no slight grounds, that this was also its common sound, or a very near approximation to its common sound among the Romans, when it was followed by either of the vowels.

Gh may be used to denote the *flat* guttural of the Irish, which is the corresponding sound to the *sharp* guttural, or German *ch*; which last I should prefer designating by *kh*, as Sir William Jones recommends in the Oriental languages, and as will presently be more particularly considered under the letter *K*.

Gs will be wanted to denote the *flat* sound of *x*, in our word *example* and other words of that form, where the letter *X* precedes the accented syllable; as *ks* will be wanted to express the *sharp* sound which *x* has in our word *exercise* and in certain others which have the *X* in the accented syllable.

* Correspondence with Mr. Du Ponceau, p. 396. See also the *Note* on the letter *W* in the present communication.