

lips should be closed and then opened with quickness, and for that of *M*, that they should be first opened and then closed with celerity. The articulation of the other consonants supposes motions more complicated. The pronunciation of *C D G L N Q R S* and *T* depend each on a particular action of the tongue, which it would be very difficult to explain; and for the pronunciation of *F*, a more continued sound is necessary, than for that of any other consonant. *A* being the most easily articulated of the vowels, as are *B P* and *M*, of the consonants, we need not wonder that the first words which children pronounce, in every country, should be composed of that vowel, and of those consonants; and that, for example, in every language, *Baba*, *Mama*, *Papa*, should be the primitive articulations. They are the most familiar sounds to man, and the most natural to him, because the most easily pronounced, and the letters of which they are composed must exist wherever there is any typical mode for the denotation of sounds.

It is to be observed, however, that as the sounds of several consonants are nearly similar; those,