I. North-west Atlantic Languages, distinguishing themselves, like those of South Africa, by Prefixal Changes, or an Initial Inflection.

A. First Group—

1. Fúlup.—The specimens of this language were received from Isambákôn, or George File, of Kissy, born in the village Bátêndu, where he was kidnapped by the ‘Eșir people in about his twenty-second year, and sold to Eláláp, where he was five years. He was next brought to Gǎd셋u, or Kǎd셋u, where he remained for three years in the hand of a Portuguese; and after this he was about five years at Bisáo, whence he was brought to Sierra Leone by a British cruiser ten years ago, and has since been the only Fúlup individual in this place. He had some difficulty in remembering the words of his mother-tongue which I asked of him; yet, on revising them with him, I had not much to alter.

Geographical remarks obtained from the same.—Bátêndu is half a day’s journey from Kátom, the Fúlup capital, and about one mile distant from the sea. Fúlup is near Bândṣál and ‘Eșir, where the same language is spoken; also near Búiui; but a considerable distance, perhaps three weeks, from Eláláp, Bótińc, and Sigidsöt, in which four places the language is different from that of Fúlup. Sigidsöt is inhabited by the Portuguese. The Fúlup country is quite level, without mountains and stones, the ground consisting of sand.

2. Fílham or Fílhöl.—From Káyáwón, or Abraham (Bahema) Belford, of Kissy, born in the town Búntur, the Fílham capital, where he lived to his sixth year, at which age he removed to Tónǎri, where he had four children, the eldest of whom was eight years old when he was taken in war by the Bányūn. He was then in Demerara for six years, and afterwards in Sierra Leone for seven, with only two countrymen.

Remarks.—Búntur is situated on a large river, running towards the sea, called Kőya, and about three weeks’ journey from the Gambia. Tónǎri is ten hours’ journey from Búntur, and six hours from the Bányūn frontier. The Kabûnga call the Fílham Dșōla, or Fóni Dșōla, i.e. perhaps, “foreigner, barbarian.” The country of the Fílham tribe is called ‘Eșuh, and is situated to the west of Kuténro, with which it has one language in common.