

Victoria, who had traveled much about. It appeared in 1889 in Ellis' E. E. Pron., pages 1668 to 1680. It bears several striking likenesses to Londonese, for "in Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand there is more than a tinge of what is commonly called Cokny." Later observations by Mr J. M. Black, of Norwood, Adelaide, S. Aust., are in progress. We await intended publication with patience.

"What is the outlook in England for better spelling?" bro't this reply from Mr H. Hodder, Northampton: "Among scholars there is growing conviction as to need of change, but no practical steps are taken. I think the NEWSPAPER holds the key to the situation. I wish you good, shrewd American cousins much success, which, when you have achieved, we shall imitate a generation later. I enclose a clipping from London Daily Mail of 4th May, headed 'Improved English,' a good-natured criticism of Report on Variant Spellings in Ontario Educational Association. The Daily Mail is our most advanced paper, never weary of girding at British backwardness in industrial and commercial methods, but when our antiquated and unreasonable spelling is threatened there comes the cry: 'Woodman, spare that tree, such not a single bow, in youth it bothered me, yet I'll protect it now.'"

—Another statement of the British outlook is that of Mr H. Drummond, of Hetton-le-Hole, Eng., clipped from The Toronto World of 30th July: "Wud that we had in England a champion similar [to The World] with as much courage. All we can boast is the stanch attitude of The London Star and The Morning Leader, that venture to print program, labor, favor, color, valor, etc.; program finds acceptance in The Phonetic Journal, Sell's Commercial Intelligence, and in an evening paper in Liverpool, with occasional reference to the subject in the Schoolmaster, Journal of Education and Educational Times. I should feel elated did The Mail or The Express show farther signs of progress by adopting certain modifications of orthography. London wud shudder for six weeks, then accept without much ado."

—"The English of the English" is in Harper's Monthly for August. It is by Julian Ralph, an American journalist representing The London Daily Mail in S. Africa in the war's start. It treats of different words (as to both vocabulary and orthography) in use in Britain and America to signify the same thing. Of spelling we are told: "It widens the difference between their speech and ours by reason of the spelling that obtains in their island. Every wagon has two g's. . . . Curb is spelled kerb, tire is tyre, a bank-check is cheque, and ribbon is still often spelled riband."

—At the meeting of School Superintendents (a department in the N. E. A.) in Chicago last winter, the motion (mentioned on p. 54) to give \$1000 a year for five years from the association's funds came up. It was to be devoted to propagandist work and paying expenses of a Council of twenty to direct and give counsel. The movement was endorsed by prominent educators, as President Harper (Univ. of Chicago) and Chancellor Andrews (Univ. of Nebraska). However, a long-tried, stanch advocate and friend of better spelling, Dr Wm T. Harris, Commissioner of Education, led opposition, mainly because it would not be legitimate so to apply association funds—lost (77 to 105).

—When the National Educational Association met in July at Detroit, a petition to the Board of Directors, signed by 29 prominent educational people, was tabled for a year, without debate. It asked to be allowed to organize a "Department of Simplified Spelling" as a department of the N. E. A. A partial canvas of the new Board gives hope for favorable action next year.

—An informal conference at Detroit of a few friends of spelling reform discussed how a fund can be raised to maintain a permanent clerk or secretary in the field under direction and authority

of a commission of eminent scholars and educators. Probably an effort will be made next winter to enlist the various State Teachers' Associations and see if they will not put (say) \$1200 into a common fund and appoint a committee to ask the National Educational Association next summer to add from its reserve at least an equal amount, creating the Commission referred to above and giving it the total fund to use as indicated. The importance was felt of maintaining this commission and fund long enough to accomplish something and possibly to inspire a wealthy philanthropist to endow the cause with a permanent income for sensible propaganda, but no plan was proposed except the one indicated above.

—The Dictionary article on p. 82 is complemented by some remarks: (1) Worcester's dictionary is undergoing thorough revision in Philadelphia. We have reason to hope that in this respect it will not be behind American rivals, but may lead.—(2) The editor of Chambers' dictionary has put himself on record in his preface (quoted on our page 45) as favoring amendment in principle, though not yet practicing such. (3) Murray's dictionary follows British usage mostly. It specifies preferred spellings in some cases, as it says (p. x of preface to vol. 1): "Where a decided reason of any kind exists for giving preference to a particular spelling, this is briefly stated at the end of the etymology; especially is this done in the few cases where the spelling preferred (e. g. ax, connexion, rime) is not that at present favored by preponderance of usage, but is intrinsically the best, and is therefore recommended."

—The Guide, of Port Hope, Ont., established as a weekly in 1830, and as a daily in 1878, now employs the twelve spellings of the N. E. A. THE HERALD was printed there at first.

—The Middlesboro (ugh) News, a local weekly established in 1880 at Middlesboro, Ky., has a large number of amended spellings, mostly commendable, but some are questionable.

TWO PROGRESSIVE "WORLDS."

The Medical World, a monthly published at 1520 Chestnut st., Philadelphia, Pa., by Dr C. F. Taylor, is the best practitioner of improved spelling that we know of. There is general change of -ed to t in suitable cases (as banisht), useless and misleading e at end of words like hostile, fertile, genuine, is dropped throughout, and numerous single words are bettered. This it goes on doing month by month consistently and (the best way) saying nothing about it beyond the brief explanation thereof kept standing on first page. Its example is bold but excellent.

The Toronto World, a morning daily established in 1880, again came to the front on 4th July last in a long editorial headed "Spelling Reform is Coming." In a broad survey, amid much else, it said:

"In England, the feature that strikes the colonial press is the mother country's backwardness to move in any progressive direction, especially one that would promote the empire's trade and commerce by improved spelling and decimalization of weights, measures and coinage. Reformed spelling would go far toward making the language the vehicle of all the world's commerce."

Disappointed by universities and philologists, ready to say and certify that amendment is desirable, even necessary, The World looks for doers of the same to

"newspapers and teachers of Motherland, U.