

to slightly notice the many muscles of the face required to express the emotions and perform other vital acts and concentrate attention on (1) the orbicularis oris, that purse-string muscle which surrounds the mouth by its action and produces the *o*-family of vowels par excellence; (2) the elevators of the upper and lower lips, causing their protrusion, producing the *u*-family of vowels. In *o*-vowels, purse-string contraction or true "rounding" prevails; in *u*-vowels, protrusion. A marked parallel obtains between the orbicularis muscle surrounding the eye, shutting the lids and throwing the skin into transverse wrinkles. The elevator of the upper lid is analogous in function to the elevator of the upper lip. The Roman alphabet is an admirable one for annotating vowel sounds, because it divides the vocal scale into five grades, which (in descending pitch) are *i, e, a, o, u*. In English we appear to have developed open *o* into a new primary vowel, making *i, e, a, o, o, u*, as heard respectively in machine, vein, art, law, no, truth. It is remarkable that we in Canada should be so slow to adopt Roman or Continental pronunciation of Latin, while it is taught everywhere else, even in the seats of learning in conservative Britain—a reflection on our educationists which they should not be slow to rectify, unless willing to lag behind the age. The *o*-family of vowels, or those in which circular contraction is exclusive or predominant, was then taken up seriatim in English (standard and dialectic) and some chief forms in French and German. Then the *u*-family, in which protrusion prevails, was treated. The regular labial consonants *f, v, p, b, m*, were then explained as to their formation, as were also Spanish *b*, German *w*, Japanese and Hungarian *v*; Greek *b*, and *ph*, and the two consonants beginning the French words *oui* and *huile*.

THIRD MEETING.

Third Meeting, 19th March, 1892, the President in the chair.

Dr. Meredith and Messrs. Pearce and McCrossen were elected delegates to the Prison Reform Conference.

Donations and Exchanges, 70.

Prof. L. E. Horning was elected a member.

A paper by Rev. John McLean, M.A., Ph.D., on the "Social Organization of the Blackfoot Indians" was read by Mr. Alan Macdougall, C.E.

A paper by H. R. Wood, M.A., entitled, "Contributions to Canadian Mineralogy," was read by Mr. G. Kennedy, LL.D. This short paper