

—A *Gram(m)ar of Innuït* (Eskimo) as spoken in western Alaska is published by Ginn & Co., Boston. It is by Rev. Francis Barnum, a Jesuit missionary. Pages xxv + 384; price, \$5.

—Prof. Vietor (frätör) has in pres (Ewert's, Marburg) a treatise on *Shakspear's Phonology*: also a *Shakspear Reader* with old spelling and *vis-a-vis* fonetic rendering. It wil be interesting to note what is taut as Shakspearian orthoepy, his own War(w)icshir or stage Londonese of the late Tudor period.

—Simplification of French Orthograpy by Prof. A. Schinz, of Bryn Mawr, (*Mod. Lang. Notes*, April) givs a summary of results for a year bak in the strugl between Comision and Academy (later than that recorded on our pages 159, 161.) "Up to now we hav witness skirmishes only; this time it was a real batl." We note supresion of the grave accent in all words where this sign conveys no special sound. It is dropt from a and u, kept for e *ouvert* [open e in *let*] and in all such.

—Mr W. T. Stead rites Mr Drummond: "I came across the fact the other day that *labour* was always spelt 'labor' in 17th century parliamentary debates. Don't yu think I hav sufficient advanced ideas to cary on my poor bak without ading speling reform? It was suggested that he *practise* it just a litl, enuf to sho his colors, without advocacy. Horace's old line comes to mind "I no and approve the better, but I do the worse."

—*Sonya*, Ontario Co., Ont., has a name frequently misspelt, tho simpl. The postmaster there kept note of difrent spellings of *Sonya* as receivd, and publisht them in the *Toronto Mail* for 29th May. They number 148. It is mentiond in our vol. 1, p. 73, that *Cayuga* was speld in 112 ways. Both *Cayuga* and *Sonya* ar fonetic now. Why ar they not speld uniformly? Very simpl speling wil not prevent the illiterat from going wide on receivd wordforms, however simpl. We advocate in plank 15 (not unsetld, but) spellings fixt and much simplified.

—A Simplified Spelling Board (SSB) has been organized with office at 1 Madison av., New York. It has 30 members, 28 in the States, 2 (W. F. Maclean, M. P., Toronto, and A. H. Mackay, LL. D., Halifax) in Canada. Several ar to be named in British lles when consent to act is got. It has an executiv of 8, all New Yorkers, permiting meeting redily. Prof. B. Matthews is chairman of executiv; Dr C. P. G. Scott is its secretary.

—Mr Carnegie is reported to hav bakt the SSB (himself a member) at a rate of \$15,000 a year for five years. Besides being auditor-treasurer, and furnishing the mainspring, he takes a "four-in-hand in." Mr W. F. Maclean says "It wil go now. I had douts hitherto."

—The SSB wisely tabooes these two expressions: *speling reform* and *fonetic speling*. Ther ar many conservativ-minded peopl to whom all mention of any reform acts as a red flag on a bul, forthwith producing unreasoning, obstinat hostility. It is mistaken tactics to display red. Any fonetic notation for popular use is utopian, tho indispensabl for scientific work and especially for comparison of results. The most advanced New Speling that can be introduced popularly (a syndrom to Old Speling) can be at most but aproximatly fonetic.

—A few years ago the state Pres Aso'n met at Sedalia, Mo., where an over-zealous enthusiast had them to pas a resolution printed thus:

"Hweraz the iregularitiz ov English orthog rafi ar a great obstacl in progres ov the pepl
"Hweraz silent leterz alone ad about 25 per cent. tu the cost ov ol riting and printing,

"Therefore, be it resolved by the misuri editorz, in convenshun asembled, that
and so on. The *New York Post*, speaking wisely and wel and by inspiration, as we believ, says,

"This shows lengths to which the SSB wil not go." They fear to go too far and too fast, which wud but defeat their own object and neutralize others' efforts.

—A second donation of \$5 reaches THE HERALD from Mr G. W. Wishard, New York. It has been put in the type-fund, raising it to \$11'62

—The twenty bound vol's of Pitman's *Journal*, givn THE HERALD by Prof. Candy's wil, as mentiond on p. 158, hav been presented to the library of St. Bride's Foundation, Bride lane, off Fleet st., London. All literature that Mr Burca gatherd and uezd in riting his 27 artcils was givn the Foundation and preservd there. The Foundation maintains a Tecnical Institute in connection with the printing trades.

—"The Present Spoken Language of Scotland" by Herbert Smith (in *Neuere Sprachen*, Feb.) is a plea that the speech herd in Scottish universities is as near normal English as that in English ones and better as a model for German and other foren students than Londonese with a Cokny element evrywhere. To call Sweet's Londonese "English" is to mislead confiding foreners, as they lern to their soro as soon as they go out of London. It is a pity that Passy was hypnotized and fel into a Sweet sleep. Smith notes that in English universities many professors and students ar drawn from Scotland.

—Passy has in pres (Teubner's, Leipzig) *Petite Phonétique*, a primer of fonetics like Vietor's *Kleine Phonetik*. The latter is translated into English with a few omisions by Ruppmann as *Elements of Fonetics*, Eng., Fr., & Ger. Dent, 1s 6d.

—"A New Throat-Sound" (*Muit. Phon.*, May) givs Sweet's latest views as to chest consonants—compare our p. 150—or sounds formd by contractions belo the larynx. He finds two:—1) A contraction of the windpipe or trachea, an elastic tube kept open by 18 or 20 rings incomplete at bak. With ful contraction—infinît degrees of contraction ar posibl—a clear aspirat is got, weaker than Arabic ha. but stronger than h. Tracheal contraction naturally accompaniies high notes, and perhaps helps to produce them by its contraction pushing up the larynx, which, as is wel known, rises for high notes and tung-front-lip-retracted (i, i, ø, e) vowels. 2) Bronchial contraction. This accompaniies notes abnormally lo. Does it help to produce them by contraction of bronchi giving a pul down on windpipe and larynx for lo notes, as in singing o-, and u-notes?

LITERATURE

A FIRST STEP. Announcement of Aims of SSB and Names of Members. 3 pages.

A LIST OF 300 COMMON WORDS SPELD IN TWO OR MORE WAYS. Introduction. Rules. 12 p.

IBIDEM in difrent form, with Authorities. 8 p.

AMELIORATION OF SPELLING, an Adress by Prof. Calvin Thomas, LL. D. 8 pages.

SPELING OF YESTERDAY AND TO-MORROW by Prof. Brander Matthews, D. C. L. 8 pages.

A STATEMENT ABOUT SIMPLIFIED SPELLING Items of Information and Corections of Misapprehensions. 4 pages.

These six circulars ar the SSB's output to 1st July. The 12 words is extended to 300, use of which makes no great change in print as many of them ar rare. Most ar preferd spellings included in lists already givn by us. Such ar comendabl; a few ar questionabl. *Gazel* and *gazet* with singl l or t lead to gæz^l or gæz^t in orthoepy—dubl l or t helps prevent this. *Adult* and *address* (n) tend to shift stres to first sylabl: we spel 'adress' as helping to preserv