

NEWS-NOTES AND COMENTS.

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—The Old Gard has lost two members: (1) CORNELIUS WILSON LARISON, M. D., died at Ringos, N. J., on 15th April, aged 73. Dr L. was a remarkabl man. A teacher, fisician, author, publisher, printer, he was indefatigabl. Besides his books, as a mouth-piece for twenty-six years ending Dec'rast he publisht the monthly *Journal of Orthoevy and Orthograpy*. (2) WELLINGTON WILCOX died at Venice, Ill., on 21 Aug. last, aged 72. A soldier in "the war" 1861-5, a teacher until 1904, he was largely instrumental tu hav the Speling Reform Convention calld at Philadelphia.

—Mr O. C. Blackmer, of Oak Park, a suburb of Chicago, our grand octogenarian worker, stil campains ardently and inteligently. He has projected a Pronouncing Bible and has actually publisht Mark's Gospel in neat, large, new type at ten cents. It is tu teach forencrs here (and abro'd by misionaries) how tu read. It will be useful for us at home as giving a version of a Receivd Pronunciation (Orthoevy), a select one that few in America wil cavil at, whatever transatlantic difthongists may say. It furnishes reading matter. with a key redily got in comon print in all tungs thru Bible Societies. In this *Mark*, vowels ar in eight pairs; the primary eight (?) ar distinguished by the circumflex. Mr B's work is logical, a welcome change from wild caprice and loose tho't. It folos his premises, the American Filologic Asocia's deliverance in 1877, anything later in either Europ or America being ignored.

—"On Simplified Speling" (6 pages in *Mod. Lang. Teaching*, Dec., '08) is signd by Sec'y Archer and Pres't Skeat. It givs distinct voice to two points: (1) Their Society "works for progressive simplification, not for systematic reconstruction." They who want the latter must work out their own salvation. (2) The etymologic objection is nokt on ths hed. It is shown that many silent letters mislead positivly as to etymology. Thus, "*gh* in *spright* has crept in on a false analogy, and 'jogs the memory' only to suggest something quite eroneos."

—Reformd Speling, if irregyular, lievz much tu bie dezaird; if regyular, (alas for aur felingz!) shoks sumbodi. Dhi "joint komishon" proupouz shud du whot nun hav akomplisht til nau: shou dhi akseptabl lain ov advans. Its alfabet shud bie (i) klasikal in its valyuz, (ii) widhaut aksents, (iii) lejibl.—SIDNEY E. BOND.

—Mr Bond now prefers i tu ie for the vowel in *eel*, *meal*, *thief*—quite an improvement.

—*Onontio* or *Onont-hio* (iō, hīō in pronunciation), an Iroquoi word, ocurs in Canadian history (Parkman, Kingsford). *Onont* or *onond* is hil, mount (as *Onondaga*, peyle on a hil, hil-vilage); *io* or *hio* (as in *Ontario*, *Ohio*) is an exclamacion as to size, excellence, beuty, etc. Mount! may be translated great mount, and uzed metaforicly for king, lord, governor. By proxy the Prince of Wales, now King George v, was made a few years ago an onorary hed-chief of the Six Nation Indians at Oshweken (Oshweken, Oswegen, Oswego) the central vilage on their reserv in Tuscarora, Brant co. Ont. He joind the turtl clan, taking the title *Onontio* (O-non-de-yoh in newspapers). The word came into use as the Iroquoi translation of Montmagny's name (governor of New France from 1636 tu 1647).

CLASIFIKATION OF VOWELS.

Primary: i e o ū } Ful  
Secondary { i e æ ʌ a o u }  
or derived { i e ʌ o } "Weak

In provisional New Speling.]

SPIKING AND SPELING.

It iz imposibl tu reprezent akyuratli ol ðe elements ov langwey. Wī hav descaibd 52 saundz [in French] ecscluding meni fainer distinksiōnz obviosli not tu bī reprezented bai eni fonetic alfabet. Ðen ðer ar stres, length, and, abav ol, pitch and infleksion, imposibl tu reprezent ecsept in ðer afest maner. Rapiditi ov enansiēsiōn mait bī indicēted bai incrising and diminishing ðe distansez betwm consekyutiv simbolz, and cwoliti ov tōn bai a spesial sain befōr evri sentens—veri complicēted. Jestiu can not bī reprezented; ðis alōn renderz it imposibl tu indicet ol ecsprest bai sprtch.

On ðe aðer hand raiting can mark distinksiōnz ðat sprtch daz not. Ðas divizion intu werdz corespondz tu no regyular fenomenon in sprtch, bat me bī rzili obzervd in raiting, and tu mēk ðe sens clīr. Similarli verios simbolz, az italics, inverted comaz, haifenz, ets., du not corespond tu enithing regyular in sprtch. Raiting haz ðerfōr advantagez tu compenset for imperfeksiōnz az a fonetic reprezentesiōn ov langwey. Raiting o't ðerfōr tu bī a compromaiz betwm ðe recwairments ov sens and ov fonetic reprezentesiōn.

Hau far shud raiting bī baund bai ðīz recwairments? If ðe object bī saientific, az in filoloji, fonetic reprezentesiōn shud bī az akyurat az posibl and ðe recwairments ov sens disregarded. Ol shedz ov saund for hwitsh simbolz can bī faund mast bī reprezented, ðer length indicēted, and combinesiōnz ov ðem divaided intu breth-grūps and stres-grūps and not intu werdz; and infleksion markt az far az posibl.

Bat in a sistem ov praktikal speling tu bī yūzd tu lern tu rīd or tu trtch foren langwejez, or tu replēs ordinary speling, aðer prinsiplz wud bī adopted.

Raiting ov ðis kaind mast bī clīr and simpl. Insted ov reprezenting az akyuratli az posibl ol sprtch elements, ōnli ðōz huz valyuz afekt ðe mning nīd bī reprezented.—Dr PAUL PASSY in *Sons du Français*.

KEY: ð e i ʌ o ū oi ai au iu  
as in they see us old rule oil aisle owl few  
(Marking o or u is unnecessary in open syllables and some other definit positions.)  
Alfabet: aabcedðeefghirjklmnoprstuvwyz  
Aa ʌʌ ðð ēē ēē lī lī Oo Ōō Uu Ūū

EXTENDING OUR PLATFORM.

Let plank 18 be completed and others aded tu the Platform alredy publisht: