

QUESTION AND ANSWER.

(Continued from page 72.)

Q. 2.—Why retain *e* final after *th* as in *wreathe* (verb) and like words on p. 85?

Ans. If *th* sounds ð, as it does in most verbs ending so, it appears wel in Amended Speling to retain *e* arbitrarily to point that out, and to omit *e* when *th* sounds þ, as in the type-words *breath* *breth* (brep), *breathe* *brīð*. Plank 4 of our Platform covers this and more. Besides, it appears woven into our literature: e. g., Tennyson (*In Memoriam*, xlix) has:

"The fancy's tenderest eddy wreathes,
The slightest air of song shall breathe."

while beside this we find (*Ibid.*, lxxiii):

"The head hath miss'd an earthly wreath:"

Q. 3. Why does Drummond spel *one* as "wan" and not w-o-n as wud be expected after what is said in HERALD p. 93?

Ans. Drummond's genral treatment of the *up*-vowel is as stated, exemplified by this from the first piece in *The Habitant*:

Dey ronne wit' deir moder, an' play wit' each oder
An' jomp all de tam jus' de sam' dey was crack
Another stanza reads:

An' down on de reever de wil' duck is quackin'
An' down by de shore leetle san' piper ronne—
De bullfrog he 's gr-rompin' an' dore is jompin'
Dey all got deir own way for mak' it de fonne.

In this, where *a* is a principal vowel as in *run*, *mother*, *other*, *jump*, *fun*, change to *o* occurs as stated; this does not hapn in *just* and *duck*, tho why is not clear. Dialect ritters ar apt to be inconsistent, unles, like Lowell, they ar scolarly and hav "scientific methods." The question is what ar the "orthoepic facts" in actual speech by the Kebec habitants. The personal equation of the dialect riter must be taken into the account. Drummond was born in Dublin which he left in childhood, stil under domestic influence til educated in Montreal. Irishmen and Londoners say wan for *one*. What does the habitant say for *one*, *just*, *duck*, *time*, *same*? Has *just* French *u*? We hav herd Dr Drummond read his verses on three separat ocasions. We hear ta'm for *time*, sam (not sām) for *same*.

Q. 4.—Yu spel *Quebec* as *Kebec* on p. 93. Do people in Canada pronounce it so?

Ans. In Kebec province and city it is ke.bec. Drummond spels it Kebeck. In English-speaking Canada the prevailing orthoepy is kwī.bec, where *i* represents a vowel varying from *i* thru *i* to weak *e* (e) or weak *ə* (°). Such mispronunciation is due to the misspelling "Quebec" in which *qu* has no more right than in Eskimo or Algonkin. The word is Micmac meaning the straits, the naros, closure, and applies to where the broad St Lawrence river is narod between Cape Diamond and Point Levis. HERALD speling (Kebec) occurs in the *Jesuit Relations*—an old, beter word-

form deserving restoration. Accordingly, HERALD "office rules" restore Kebec.

WORD-REGISTER.

OLD SPELING	NEW SPELING	ORTHOEPY
Baireuth* (Bavarian town)	baï-roit	
Beirut* (a town in Syria)	ba-rūt, ba¹-rūt	
Chile (S. America)	
Chili (a province in China)		
creosol	-----
creosote†	creosōt
Cnut‡	Cnūt
Hardicnut	Hardīcnūt
hors de combat (Fr.)	or ^{da} co-bā	
Misisipi§	-----
road	rōd	..
rode	"	..
row(e)d	"	rō:d
Rumania	-----

* Presumably, *h* in Baireuth wil disappear now as it does genrally from *th* in German speling recently made uniform as explained elsewhere. Beirut is the speling authorized by the geografic societies. The several other spelings yet found shud vanish from non-use.

† From Greek *kreas* (flesh) and *sōtḡr* (saver, savior, preserver). *Kreo-* or *creo-* is "the combining form" according to Murray (see NED under *creosote*). So, for *creasote* in list of Preferred Spelings on p. 85 read *creosote*. Analogy requires *creosol* also.

‡ Cnut (for Canute) is found in recent histories, as Green's and Freeman's. Canute is indefensibl, a being inserted without warrant between *c* and *n* as tho *cn* wer unpronounceabl. On his coins the name appears as *CNVT*, so that *e* final is indefensibl also.

§ This is the actual speling in Spanish ahed of English in having reformed its speling in the first quarter of the 19th century. Our convictions gro that dubld consonants, very rare in Spanish, shud be as rare in English, to be used when plainly requisit, as in *coattail*, *bookcase*, *unnecesary*, *illegal*, etc. No dubld consonant is requisit in *Misisipi* thru either orthografic base (Platform, plank 7). The word is from Indian *misi*, or *mīsi* (French *michi*) meaning big, great, and *sibi* or *sipi*, river.

|| Rū-mā-ni-a, for which ther is authority, is questiond. So far east, and in the Orient genrally, a has one or other (a, a) of its Roman values. Becaus a is misnamed with us is no reason for teaching out-of-joint orthoepy. Geografic Societies favor the speling Rumania with Roman value for *u*, which is the rule when but a singl consonant comes between it and the next vowel. In newspapers just now the speling Roumania is comon with *ou* as in French or in our word soup. We hope no one wil so far forget his sense of propriety as to suggest Roomaynia—suplanting a bad French weed (*ou*) by two worse ones (*oo*, *ay*) from England.

For fuller explanation and Platform see cover of Annual of New Speling (postpaid, 10 c.) publisht evry July as archives of each year.

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