

We hav recently been privilejd tu examin an undoutedly genuin copy ov a work printed in the erly part ov Queen Elizabeth's reign. We make sum extracts and giv coments tharon. It iz printed partly in the o'd blak letz, which about disapeard with the Tudors, partly in the old-fash'nd Roman letz ov that day. While the blak-letz was abandond in Britain, it was continyud thruout Germany and iz tu this day more prevalent thar than the Roman characters, or thoz we employ. We can, ov cors, only imitate the shapes ov the letz in the Roman parts alone; which we do by puting it in what the printers ov tu day cali 'old style'. The book iz a thik quarto, and iz a small part ov a state-and church controversy on church government between Dr. John Whitgift, afterward Archbishop ov Canterbury, and Rev. Thomas Cartwright, the celebrated Puritan. It iz entitld:

THE DEFENSE of the Aunsvvere to the Admonition, against the Replie of T. C. BY IOHN VVHITGIFT, Doctor of Diuinitie. Printed at London by Henry Binneman, for Humfrey Toye. Anno 1574.

"Onlie let vs be diligent in our vocation: earnest against all kinde of enimies: feruent in prayers for the preferuation of the Queenes maiestie, and for the peace of the Church, vvith the good successe of the Gospell: and vigilant that errors be not published vvithout controlement: and, God vvil ere it be long, (if our finnes deferue not the contrarie) giue peace to this church, as he hath done to other disturbed in like manner." [Preface.]

"Those things vvich be not vvriten, but kepte by tradition, vvich are obserued through the vvhole vvorld, are tu be vnderstanded, either to be deliuerd vnto vs, from the Apostles themfelues, or else decreed by generall Councils vvhose autoritie is greate in the Church, as that vve yerely vvith solemnitie celebrate the pafion of the Lorde, and his refurection, his ascention into heauen, and the comming of the holy Ghost, and if there be any other thing that is obserued of the vvhole Church." [P. 103.]

*Defense.*—Had later orthografers speld the word by simply omiting the silent *e* at end, it wud hav been betr. This wud giv *defens* insted ov the longer *defence*, and be nearer the derivation, Latin *defensum*. It iz stil, and properly, often speld *defense*; while 'defensible' and 'defensive' ar alone proper.

*Aunsvvere.*—Our present speling has been got by changing long tu crooked *s*, omiting *u* and *e*, and having a singlar type, *w*, insted ov dubling the *v* z (then calld *yu*, whens our name dubl-yu.)—Betr stil tu go farther in the same direction ov simplifying and shortening so az tu spel it *ansr*.

*Replie.*—If we now speld it *repli*, but with a stroke in place ov the dot over the *i*, 't wud be nearer the old than the modern *reply*. The plural we stil hav iz *replies*.

*IOHN. Maiestie, etc*—Ther was no *Jj* until about 1650. *It* was uzel insted.

*Humfrey* iz speld sensibly with *f* insted ov *ph*.

*Onlie.*—Tu spel this word 'onli' is les ov an inovation than the modern 'only.' We stil hav pet names and diminutives ending in *ie*, az *Neillie*, *Eddie*, *dollie*; and such is stil the regular ending for the sound, and its cognate long *e*, in French words, az *Marie*, *Julie*, *folie* (folly.) This recent habit ov ending a word