

The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

4TH YEAR.

TORONTO, CANADA, April, 1888.

N^R. 33

INTERNATIONALITY.

It may fairly be taken as axiomatic that all nations using Roman letters shud use them, so far as practicabl, in the same way, that is, with like sound-values. Ther is so general awakening among most of such nations to Reviⁿ of Sp. that it is now oportune for central superviⁿ, lest each nation may drift in diferent direcⁿ from others. As certn signs (say, 1, 2, 3, 4. . .) ar used with same numeric values on one uniform (decimal) system, so shud signs for speech-sounds (a, c, e, d. . .) be used with approximately the same values evrywhere on one uniform (approximately fonetic) plan.

An interna^l organizaⁿ to this efect is needed. It is at work. For want of beter name, it is calld Fonetic Teachers Associaⁿ, with hed-quarters in Paris and members throuth Europ and America. Organized 2 years ago, it is rapidly groing. Its members ar mainly interested in teaching living languages. Subjects for its work ar furnishd by serching analysis of speech and practical applicaⁿ therof to language-teaching—incidentally puting such teaching on a new basis. Guidance as to direction in which Revized Sp. shud be alowd not only to drift pasively but to be towd actively is got as a resultant precipitat of such work. It is governd by a council of 20 distributed thus: Germany and Austria 5, France 4, Eng. 2, with 1 each in Sweden, Belgium & Holland, Finland, Denmark, Canada, Iceland, U. S., Norway. It wil be seen that Germany leads— a beter account is needed of this side of Atlantic. By correspond^{ce} and circulars, the Council is always in seⁿ. It is proper that hed-quarters shud be on continent of Europ as that is the land of varid speech and polyglots. There ther is diversity and practice not got in N. America and hardly in British Isles.

More general means of comunicaⁿ is by its monthly organ, the *Fonetic Teacher*, chiefly in English, partly in Ger. and Fr. Adherent members pay 2 francs a year and receive a copy free; activ members, 5 francs (\$1), get 3 copis. Evry one shud help this organizaⁿ in its beneficent work. We beg leav to speak a good word for it.

The president is Prof. Victor of Marburg; the treasurer, M^r E. O. Kenyon, 25 Avenue de l'Opera, Paris. Subscripⁿ sent us we wil forward at sender's risk. A harty respons shud be promptly forthcoming.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

E. W. Horr, Blandville, Ky. (D^r Horr.)
Miss C. Balcom, Gambier, O. (D^r Horr.)
G. Dickson, M. A., Principal Up. Canada College, Toronto, (got by A. Hamilton.)
M^r P. D. Preston, Spruce Grove, Penna., (got by A. Hamilton.)

Miss Mary B. Rudeboe, New Germantown, N. J., (got by Miss Suzan M. Phillips.)

If evry subscriber wud get another *who end continue subscription* and that evry year, it 'wud make things hum' by dubling circulaⁿ anually. Insted of one yearly, it shud be monthly. We hav several cases of a singl subscriber of 3 years' standing at a post-office (even a large city) who is stil alone at roll-call! shameful! Such ar ofn loud in saying "Why dont yu —?"

--Ther is a *practical* (popular) alfabet and a *theoretic* (scientific) alfabet. The first represents only the sounds necessary for expresion of tho't, the other concerns itself also with non-significant variations of such sounds. *Science demands that notaⁿ* be gramatically and logically correct, that it indicate the sound, quantity and accent, and that it form an organism. It also requires that regard be had to existing circumstances, and that in establishing a fonetic form of riting, the style of pronunciaⁿ which obtains in careful and formal speech, and is reflected in dictionaris and scool usage, be folod, in preference to quik, careles, slurring pronunciaⁿ, herd in colloquial uterance, or in local or dialectal speech. -- *Fricke*.

THE ILLITERAT SOUTH. In the South ar 8 million freedmen and their descendants, a distinctiv and uterly unasimilated peopl, dubling evry 20 years, of whom scarce 10 per cent. can read. . . . Among large mases of white population of the South, illiteracy and degradation ar as great as among negros. *Cristian Union*.