

FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY.

Hads't thou but Faith in me
To launch thy bark
With mine upon life's sea,
Thou' clouds hung dark,

Then I had Hope in thee,
That thou would'st prove
Staunch against storms to be,
Through thy strong love.

By FAITH and HOPE entwined
Might we not see
Our storm-sky silver-lined
With CHARITY;

And sailing 'mid the din
Of wrathful seas,
At length love's haven win
With fav'ring breeze!

Montreal.

BARRY DANE.

THE SPELLING REFORM.

Not with any intention of entering into the merits of the controversy now going on with respect to Phonetic Spelling, but simply as one of those points of literary curiosity which we make it our duty to lay before the readers of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS as they arise, we shall give a summary of a pamphlet on the subject, received from Burns & Co., of New York, and written by Prof. E. O. Vaile, of Cincinnati. In so doing, we shall have the whole subject in a nutshell.

I.

The movement for a reform in our orthography, and the adoption of an uniform method of spelling, seems to have originated in England. The London School Board took up the matter last year, and in December, by a vote of twenty-six to six, passed a resolution declaring it desirable that the government should be moved to issue a royal commission for considering the best method of simplifying our method of spelling. Upon invitation over 100 other boards, including those of Liverpool, Birmingham and Wolverhampton, joined with the London Board in its memorial to the Department of Education. To give greater force to the movement, and largely through the influence of Chas. Reed, Chairman of the London Board, a conference of spelling reformers was held May 27. The report of the proceedings was published in all the London papers. The Society of Arts opened its rooms to the conference, and many distinguished persons participated.

In America, the most eminent philologists are decidedly in favour of the reform. Prof. Whitney, of Yale, Prof. March of Lafayette, and Prof. Haldeman, of the University of Pennsylvania, have each published essays in support of phonetic spelling, as did also the late Prof. Hadley, of Yale. The first three are officers and leading spirits in the Spelling Reform Association, an organization which was formed last year for the purpose of agitating this matter of reform. W. T. Harris, Superintendent of Schools, St. Louis, and C. K. Nelson, of St. John's College, Annapolis, are also officers. The American Philological Association has for years declared the necessity of an improved mode of spelling.

II.

The arguments in favour of the Reform may be thus briefly presented:

I. There is the practical inconvenience which we suffer both in learning and using the language. We hardly realize how much of our learning time is taken up in mastering orthographical intricacies. How much easier it would be to read in the first place, and then how much easier to read and write correctly afterward, if every word were spelt as it is pronounced, and pronounced as it is spelt? How much time and patience would be saved in the school-room, if spelling books and spelling lessons could become things of the past? The English language, from the simplicity of its grammatical structure, would be one of the easiest in the world to learn if it were not for its abominable spelling. As it is, a stranger may acquire the spoken tongue by mouth and ear, or he may acquire the written tongue by grammar and dictionary. But in either case one tongue being learned, the other tongue will be almost as strange to him as if he had never heard or seen its counterpart. He really has to acquire two languages.

II. The pecuniary argument is by no means an insignificant one. It is easy to show that, by the lowest estimate, fifty dollars per year are spent in the case of every teacher for the drill work in reading and spelling. Of this work at least nine-tenths is made necessary by the present irregular spelling. Then look at the matter of printing. Upon the most moderate reform, simply omitting silent letters, six per cent. of the number of letters is saved, consequently saving six per cent. of type-setting and book-making. Suppose \$70,000,000 is the annual cost of production in books, newspapers, and periodicals (and this amount is certainly low), and there would be a saving of \$4,000,000. Is there not something worth considering in this view of the case?

III. Instead of phonetic spelling contributing to the alteration and damage of the language, as it is charged, it would exert a conserving influence, and "tend to uniformity and fixedness of pronunciation." So loose and uncertain is now the tie between writing and utterance that existing differences of pronunciation hide themselves under the cover of a spelling that fits them all equally well. The largest part of our conserving force is spent upon the visible form alone. We do not give much heed to the audible form. We had spelling matches in abundance, but no pronouncing matches.

IV. For the educationist there is an argument more serious than all others. It is the "actual mischief done by subjecting young minds to the illogical and tedious drudgery of learning to read and write English as spelt at present. Everything they have to learn in spelling and pronunciation is irrational; one rule contradicts another, and each statement has to be accepted simply on authority, and with a complete disregard of all those rational instincts which lie dormant in the child, and which it is the highest function of education to awaken by every kind of healthy exercise."

III.

We next append the Phonetic Alphabet.

SHORT VOWELS.

Letter.	Sound.	Naim.
I i	it	it
E e	end	et
A a	at	at
O o	ou	ot
U u	up	ut
W w	(put)	tut

LONG VOWELS.

Ee ee	eel	ee
Ai ai	ail	ay
Ah ah, â*	ah!	ah
Au au	fault	au
Ê ê ô	foes	re
Oo oo	cool	oo

DIPHTHONGS.

Ie ie, i	pie	ie
Oi oi	oil	oy
Ou ou	out	ow
Q u, û	duty	ew

ASPIRETS.

H h	hat	hay
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CEASEMENTS.

Wh wh	when	wheel
W w	wit	way
Y y	yet	yay

EXPLODENTS.

P p	pay	pee
B b	bay	bee
T t	tie	tee
D d	die	dee
Ch ch	cheer	chay
J j	jeer	jay
K k, c	king	kay
G g	get	gay

CONTINUANTS.

F f	fie	ef
V v	vie	vee
Th th	thin	ith
Th th	then	thee
S s	seel	es
Z z	zeel	zee
Sh sh	shun	ish
Zh zh	(vision)	zhee

LICWIDZ.

L l	lily	el
R r	reer	ur

NAIZALZ.

M m	maim	am
N n	nun	en
Ng ng	sing	ing

X x=cs boz ex
* The markt leteas may be uqd when preferred.

IV.

It will be interesting to conclude with an example:

Too very powerful fersez can be relied upon for its support. 1. Ther iz the hœl body ov eminent filolojists, joined by meny distingwisht scolerz, fuily comited, and redy to leed the movement. 2. Ther iz the larj Jerman and foren populashon in our cuntry daily vexing itself in atemts to acwier our langweij. Their graitest obstael iz our speling; this they feel. When wuns the mater cums tu be ajitaid in New York, Cincinnati and plaisez liek them, the hœl foren element wil be found enerjetic in suport ov the reform. If the influens ov the grait body ov teachers cud be aded tu theez uther fersez, we wud soon see the begining ov a chainj in our speling. Why can we not thro our influens in faiver ov reform? Why shud we not ajitat the mater in our comunitiz? Why can not we taik reezonabl licens in the way ov reform? In our oen rieting supez we shud omit a from the digraf ea when pronounst az e short, and thus riet hœd, helth, serch, truble, jurnal, and yung? Supoez we shud begin on prinsipl tu omit the fienal e after a short vowel, and omit gh when sielent, and riet f when gh has the sound ov f. This wud maik motiw, dauler, tho, ruf, and cuf. By uzing theez forms in our oen rieting, we shud begin the very important werk ov maiking the ie ov the comunity familyer with new spelings, even tho in our scool-roomz we say nothing about them. At anl events it iz our bounden duty tu maik it serten that the next jenerashon shal not luk with the saim superstitius reverens az the preznt jenerashon upon what Max Muller caulz our unhistorical, unsistematic, unintelijibl and unteechabl mœd-of speling.

VICTOR EMMANUEL, who was seriously indisposed a fortnight ago, called in a priest to minister to his spiritual wants—a step which, the clericals say, he has not taken since his boyhood.

THE SOLITARY GUEST.

"A curious dinner was lately given at one of the principal Parisian restaurants. Thirteen covers had been laid; but, to the surprise of the waiters, a single guest made his appearance. The mystery was afterwards explained. Many years before, thirteen friends (amongst whom were Alfred De Musset and Théophile Gautier), met at the restaurant in question, and agreed to dine together every year, on the same day and in the same place. The solitary guest at present was M. Rubelles, a painter of some repute, aged 84."—*Canadian Illustrated News*.

At Paris, in a sumptuous room,
The lamps were lit, one autumn night;
The air was fragrant with perfume,
And all was luxury and light.
A princely feast the table graced,
Rich wines flashed, eager to be pour'd,
And velvet-cushioned seats were placed
For Thirteen Guests around the board.

A liveried crowd, with noiseless foot,
Like shadows flitted to and fro,
Just touched a flower, or turned a fruit,
Each to the other whispering low:
"Est-ce que ces Messieurs vont venir?"
"Tis time the banquet should begin."
Hush! The door opens—they are here—
An old man feebly tottered in.

He took his place, and bowed his face
In mute but reverential prayer:
There glanced all round, as though he found
A phantom in each vacant chair.
The lackeys gazed appalled, amazed
With awe, that momentarily increased—
They could not guess the wretched feast
That racked the Master of the Feast.

Full forty years have passed away,
Since in that same luxurious shrine
Poets and painters, young and gay,
Thirteen in number, met to dine:
And when the festal hours had sped,
They vowed each coming year to meet,
And, as each brother joined the dead,
Still to retain his ghost a seat.

Here sat De Musset—Murger there—
And here Sainte-Beuve—but wherefore dwell
On the great names of those who were?
Those names are still a poet's spell.
Last year, two met—to meet no more—
Since then, bright Théophile has gone—
Rubelles, whose years are eighty-four,
Survives the last, and dines alone!

He sits and dreams; his eyes are blind
To flowers and fruits and dainty fare:
His soul is with the Twelve—his mind
Is busied with each empty chair.
Once, only once, he called for wine:
They filled his glass—and then he said
In hollow tones: "O comrades mine,
I drink the memory of the Dead!"

Montreal.

GEO. MURRAY.

BRELOQUES POUR DAMES.

AN erring lady in a recent novel is described as being "tattooed" by society. This is needless pricking with a vengeance.

ELIZABETH CADY STANTON says: "On her own hearthstone woman is fortified. There she may make herself heard." Alas! she often does!

A WOMAN may not be able to sharpen a pencil or hold an umbrella, but she can pack more articles into a trunk than a man can in a one-horse wagon.

A MAN in love may be likened to a fly in a spider's web, entangled by one of the most fragile substances, yet from which it is most difficult to escape.

YOUNG lady: "Oh, I am so glad you like birds? What kind do you admire most?"—Old gentleman: "Well, I think a goose, with plenty of stuffing, is about as nice as any!"

"OCH," said a love-sick Hiernian, "what recreation it is to be dying of love! It sets the heart aching so delicately there's no taking a wink of sleep for the pleasure of the pain."

A YOUNG man, who is paying his addresses to a lady love, stayed so late a few evenings since, that the family were compelled to whitewash the wall next morning, to obliterate his shadow.

A MAN cannot wait for his dinner without losing his temper; but see with what angelic sweetness a woman bears the trial. Has the woman more patience? Not a bit—only she has lunched, and the man has not.

THEY were at a dinner party, and he remarked that he supposed she was fond of ethnology. She said she was, but she was not very well, and the doctor had told her not to eat anything for dessert except oranges.

A LITTLE boy refusing to take a pill, his mother placed it in a piece of preserved pear, and gave it to him. In a few minutes she said,—"Tommy, have you eaten the pear?"—"Yes, mother, all but the pip!"

"MEN are so unreasonable!" exclaimed a much-tried wife. "Here's my husband can't drink bad coffee at breakfast without abusing me, and yet he'll drink bad whiskey all day and never think of abusing the barmaid."

WHEN a husband and wife are afflicted with incompatibility of temper among the Arizona Indians they are burnt together, but in some civilized communities they are condemned to live on together, and make it hot for one another here in this cold world.

MRS. MILLISS was asked the other day how she managed to get along so nicely with Mr. Milliss, and frankly replied: "Oh, I feed him well. When a woman marries, her happiness for a little while depends upon the state of her husband's heart; after that, it's pretty much according to the state of his stomach."

A PURE and good woman is a great power. Whether arising from the courage that is founded on a sense of responsibility, or whether unconsciously exercised and dictated only by her noble instinct, she has a great power in modelling the characters and regulating the conduct and lives of those who are under her influence.

LITERARY.

EDITORIALS on the *Times* are paid for at rates varying from two to five guineas each.

MR. J. G. WHITTIER will be seventy years old in December.

CAPTAIN BURNABY's next ride will be to Timbuctoo and the King of Dahomey.

MR. GLADSTONE will contribute a preface to Dr. Schliemann's account of his excavations at Mycenae.

GENERAL LONGSTREET has written a review of the battle of Gettysburg, which possesses some new information.

THE French Academy has formally declared that M. Thiers' seat is vacant. This means that candidates may now offer themselves for the chair.

THE younger Gladstone also takes to literature and art. He has translated and written a preface for Thibault's "Purity in Musical Art."

JOHN HAY, author of "Little Breeches," etc., lives in sumptuous style in Cleveland, Ohio, where he married the daughter of a very wealthy citizen.

BEECHER will lecture at least twice a week this winter, getting from \$300 to \$500 for each lecture. Tilton gets from \$100 to \$250 a night.

JOAQUIN MILLER has located in Boston. He says he likes that city, as it reminds him of dear old London.

MR. J. HAMILTON FYFE is engaged in preparing a work on the social and political condition of France, from the Restoration to the present day.

THE author of *Ginx's Baby* has in the press a new work, to be entitled *The Captain's Cabin*, a narrative of a voyage in one of the great ocean steamers.

Diana, Lady Lyle, Mr. Hepworth Dixon's romance, is about to appear in Berlin, a Prussian publishing firm having purchased the right of translation into German.

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES does his literary work with a broad gold pen fitted into a quill handle—a pen that he has used for twenty years. He writes three hours daily in the morning.

J. W. DE FORREST, the novelist, is a dignified, dark and handsome man, of middle age, well bred, not egotistic, and although of a retiring nature, is a genial companion to those who know him well.

THE agents of the London papers in Paris have now to produce a written licence for the delivery of their bundle at the stations. The sale of the papers thus depends on the pleasure of the Government.

MR. S. PHILLIPS DAY, whose *True Story of Louis Napoleon's Life*, has been out of print for some time, is about to republish it, with an additional chapter bringing the narrative down to the Emperor's death.

MR. GEORGE HOWELL is writing a book, to be entitled *The Conflict of Capital and Labour*, in which the history and the various aspects of trades unions, technical education, &c., will be treated at length.

MR. GLADSTONE has in the press a collection of "Essays, Letters and Addresses." They will be divided into the following sections: Personal and Literary, Ecclesiastical and Theological, European and Historical.

OWING to the success attending the publication of the first shilling volume of *Sloperiana*, of which over fifty thousand copies have already been sold, the next issue from the *Judy* office will consist of a collection of the *Beauties of Sloper*, accompanied by an analysis written by Sloper himself, in imitation of that by Mr. William Hogarth, published some time ago.

In the Dark, in Seven Watches, is the title under which Mr. R. E. Francillon is producing his Christmas romance for 1877. Though similar in plan and character to the fictions known to Christmas as "Like a Snowball," "Streaked with Gold," and "Rare Good Luck," this story, the *Examiner* says, will not appear in connection with any monthly magazine, but will take the shape of an independent annual.

THE late Mr. Mortimer Collins says—"Not to be satisfied with what you write is a good sign. Never use a long word where a short one would do, and construct your sentences so as to require few commas. As to ever being satisfied with what you do, don't expect it. If you were, I should advise you to write no more. The mind must be a very shallow one that is satisfied with its own work. Therefore, accept your dissatisfaction as a good sign, and expect the editor to differ from you. Diffidence is the worst vice of modern writing."

THE Mansion House Indian Famine Relief Fund now amounts to more than £400,000.

THE London School Board intend to purchase a vessel for a training school, at a cost of £7,000.

PROF. BELL, the inventor of the telephone, will not sell an instrument for any sum, but he rents at the rate of \$10 a year. A Providence correspondent of the *New York Graphic* says the Professor has already rented 3,500, producing the neat little sum of \$35,000 a year.

NOTICE TO LADIES.

The undersigned begs respectfully to inform the Ladies of the city and country that they will find at his Retail Store, 196 St. Lawrence Main Street, the choicest assortment of Ostrich and Vulture Feathers, of all shades; also, Feathers of all descriptions Repaired with the greatest care. Feathers Dyed as per sample, on shortest delay. Gloves Cleaned and Dyed Black only.

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