

CATCH THEM YUNG.

Speling reform is of greatest moment, not to adults, whose schooldays ar over, but to yungsters entering their educational career. It is unlikely that general speling reform wil come without its systematic introduction into public elementary scools. Direct our efforts to secure immediat adoption of a simpl fonetic system of teaching to read. It is a well-establishit fact that, begining with the fonetic method, both New Speling and the Old ar more quikly and thoroly masterd than the old alone by ordinary methods. They who hav finisht "cannot be bothered" to lern another system; but, once bro't to apreciate the real and immense value of fonetics to elementary education, they wil undoutedly tolerate and encurage their adoption for that purpos. In course of two decades of fonetic tuition, a universal reform of speling wud naturally be bro't about —Correspondent of Newcastle (Eng.) Weekly Chronicl.

FROM SPELING-BOOK TO BANKRUPTCY.

When Thomas Brown atended scool, he wanted to study book-keeping. But the teacher told him he must spend the time on his speling lesons; for book-keeping wud do him no good unless he cud spel wel.

So he quit scool and went to help in his uncle's grocery. In a few years he inherited the establishment. The store was wel patronized and apeard to prosper. He had to depend entirely on a hired acountant, who silently robd him and "doctord up" the books. Brown did not no what was rong. Evry year he became more deeply involvd.

At length, worn out and discouraged, he died of fever. The book-keeper fled. The estate sold for many thousand dollars les than liabilities. The unfortunat family was left in want.

Letterville, N.Y.

Hu Lo.

WIL IT EVER COME?

Wil Speling Reform ever come? yu ask. What's to stop it? Nothing shud stop yur reforming speling. It is the same with evry inteligent adult. If yu, chuse to spel 'hav' without e, no power wud prevent yu dropping the needles e. So, with giv, liv, leav, reliev, conceiv, and hosts of other words whose sound is unaffected by omiting silent e. Sheding idle leters is historic and natural. In old books yu find e

atacht to many words unadornd (?) with it now. Why shud we rite useles leters any more than our forefathers? We claim having made great progres since their day. So we hav—progres in this direction can be extended. Extend this reform to our own speling—something we ar capabl of and free to perform—then we can anser Wil it ever come? by saying, Yes; it has come to me. It comes by evry individual determining in his own mind to get rid of leters not needed for any useful purpos and which hinder yung peopl lerning to read and spel. They who hav past youth's difficulties o't to try to create an atmosfere so that it may be easier for yung peopl to spel in more rational way than we ar compeld to now. We hav attained greater liberty, and may and shud spel as becomes free men and women. May we make freedom's path broader yet by a speling simpler and more consistent.

H. DRUMMOND.

LITERATURE

LIFE AND LABORS OF SIR ISAAC PITMAN
Told and Illustrated by Benn Pitman. Cloth, 201 pages 8vo; Phonographic Institute, Cincinnati, Ohio. Postpaid, \$1.

Reed's *Life of Pitman* was ritten in 1887, ten years before Pitman's deth. This one by his brother more than supplies the want of a new edition of Reed's. Sir Isaac's life is told in twenty-five slices or chapters, each dealing with a separat aspect of him or his career; is illustrated by the author, who has won deserved fame as a remarkable artist; a biography delightful, spirited, instructiv and truthful, not fild with flattery, eulogy, or apotheosis. Our readers wil be especially interested in chapters 19 to 23, pages 143 to 190, dealing with Dr A. J. Ellis, Alfabetic Reform, Unsetld Points in Pronunciation, Bell's Visibl Speech. Much said therein deservs reproduction in our colums: but get the book yurself, not hav mere tastes and sips thru us. Its binding is neat, strong, elegant.

STEPS OF PROGRESS in the Art of Writing
by D. Kimball. 64 pages 24mo, paper. 10 cents. D. Kimball, 113 Adams st., Chicago, Ill.

The first dozen pages giv a history of alfabetic symbols (with facsimiles) from prehistoric ages, told in lucid style. Over 50 pages is a plea for Lindsley's Takigrafi, a fonetic shorthand easily red.

For God so lavd ðe world ðat hī gev hīz ónli-begotn sán ðat hūsoever belīv-eth in hīm shud not perīsh bat hav ever-lasting laīf.—Jon iii,16.