

tends to cause some diversity of opinion among the fraternity, yet we are all aware of the fact that if some roads *are* straight and narrow, while others are broad and crooked, the destination reached will be the same, if we but persevere to the end. Of course, in matters of personal interest we are all apt to co-work; we speak of salaries, and also retaining the importance of the profession in its various applications—in the court room, newspaper office, railroad and mercantile circles: the proficient *few* working to make the *many* just starting out, equally so; and those commencing, endeavoring to place themselves on an equal footing with the "old stagers," in order that the "standard" may be kept well to the front and ably protected.

It will undoubtedly be apparent to all who read this that the volume in which it appears is one of the very best means of advancing the interests of the art, as well as promoting the *co-operation* of its members. Of this, the best assurance we can offer is its general and very just popularity.

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Cincinnati, Ohio.

THE SPELING REFORM.

A FEIV YEERZ' FONETIK KROOSAYD—A KAUL TO ARMZ.

In hiz aniuul adres tu the memberz ov the Fonetik Soseieti, Isaac Pitman telz us that "when the Jurnal komenst in 1842, the speling reform had reali been in ekzistens feiv yearz, tho we niu it not," and theez wurdz hav been red bei thouzandz hoo, having red them, thaut no moar about them. But ei want the reederz ov the "Kosmopolitan" tu tayk them intu seerius konsiderayshon, for they tel us a trooth which shud rous everi advokayt ov fonetik speling intu akshon. *In feiv yearz moar* the speling reform moovment wil hav komplected the ferst haf sentiuri ov its ekzistens!

Feiv yearz ar stil left tu us, in which, if we set tu wurk with a wil, and pul together, we may sekieur a gloarius viktori for the kawz ov troo spelling, and ei want everi-wun hoo reedz theez wurdz tu join in this "Feiv yearz' Fonetik Kroosayd" and doo aul he kan tu help the armi ov reformerz aulredi in the feeld.

We, in Kanada, hav speshal need tu doo something deseiziv diuring the nekst feiv yearz, for we hav akomplisht so little in the past. Sum ov us (and ei konfes ei kannot kount meisl among the number) hav strugeld for the kawz thru good and il-re-

port, but so fuu and far between have been theez egzampels ov reeal leiv reformerz that, doo what they wud, thay kud mayk litel or no impreshon on the jeneral publik.

Now it iz teim that each ov us ansered the roal kaul and took hiz plays in lein, with a manli determinayshon tu imitayt, az wel az he kan—for *feiv yearz at eni rayt*—the brayv men hoo hav stud shoalder tu shoalder with Eizak Pitman for the last forti-feiv yearz.

We kan each ov us mayk the moovment noan tu our frendz and say a good wurd for it.

We kan eech ov us drau atenshon tu the anomaliz and absurditiz ov the komon speling, and mayk thoaz around us understand that they ar kondeming themselvz, and their children, tu a leif-long slayveri if they doo not faul intu lein with us and streiv tu abolish theez oald speling kus-tomz.

We kan eech ov us adopt such spelingz as "favor, labor, honor, traveler, &c.," insted ov puting in the dubel 'l' or the 'u,' and we kan bak up with our influe ns everi niu approach tu the fonetik principel—even welkuming such wurdz az "plou" and "sox."

Meni ov us kan sayfli go beyond this and leev out, in ther reiting, aul the silent leterz. Ei would not ask eni wun tu doo moar than he kan with sayfti kari intu praktis, but each soaldyer ov the reform shud feel proud tu doo aul that iz in hiz power.

Trusting that mei leter, tho badli put together, may leed aul hoo reed it to join the "Feiv yearz' Fonetik Kroosayd" with a determinayshon tu skoar a viktori for the Speling Reform.

I remayn, yourz fraternali,

R. FIELDER.

Montreal.

EXAMINATIONS IN SHORTHAND.

The contemplated Canadian Shorthand Society, with test examinations, adds interest to these remarks by the editor of the *Reporters' Magazine, London, England*:—

"For many years we have personally advocated the necessity and the commercial value of a certificate of phonographic ability—ability to utilize the system for commercial purposes. It is with no little pleasure that we endorse Mr. Withers' opinion of the value of the certificate of the Society of Arts, and recommend all phonographers who intend to use phonography to gain their living, to endeavor to earn it. No phonographer who earns it need despair of his ability to fill any position as a shorthand clerk. The perusal of the following brief outline of the