

tion to this spelling on the same grounds that Pope's *Dunciad* is not spelt "Dunceiad." Pope's spelling however has been much disputed, and moreover it is to be remembered that in this case there is no chance for ambiguity in pronunciation, while if the *e* is omitted in Shakespeare after the *k*, there may be ambiguity.

It may seem a matter of little moment to many as to what form is used. Some use one because it is short, others another, from some other trivial reason, while many, consoled by the idea that to be mistaken is impossible, let their hurrying pen be their authority. Such carelessness causes what is not by any means uncommon, different forms in the same article. That one form would be preferable is evident, and from what has been said, that form should be—Shakespeare—which is in perfect accordance with its derivation, consonant with its pronunciation, and not wanting in direct authority.

LAEDA.

OUR LECTURE COURSE.

SILAS ALWARD, ESQ.

Our Lecture Hall was crowded on Tuesday night, to hear Mr. Alward deliver his address upon "Our Western Heritage." The known ability and eloquence of the lecture, proved a source of attraction to many who do not usually attend our lectures.

On rising, Mr. Alward was greeted with loud applause, and proceeded at once with his address. With a beautiful introduction he referred to the primeval condition of Germany and England, and compared their present position among the nations of the world, with their ancient condition. No one ever thought then that they would ever be what they are. So the Pilgrims entering a strange and new country, did not think of the magnificent heritage they would leave to their posterity. The lecturer next related the history of the different Fur Trade Companies. Then he referred to the first colonists of the North-West, and gave a description of the immense extent of the country, of the progress of Manitoba, of the present land mania and of the city of Winnipeg. The different races of the West, the Half-breeds, Indians, Americans and Europeans were spoken of,

also the Icelandic and Mennonite settlements. The others going into the country are mostly Canadians, chiefly from Ontario. A description of the land, fertility of the soil, of the products, was given, and the lecturer said that the farther west he went, the more satisfied were the people with the land. In speaking of the products of the land, the lecturer showed that Canada raises in proportion, more oats, wheat and barley than the United States. The lecturer said that with all its advantages, this country had still some serious drawbacks. These were, scarcity of wood, bad water, and the absence of good cooks. A spirit of unrest and anxiety possesses the country now, over the land speculations, but there is a grand future before "Our Western Heritage." The growth of Canada surpasses the rapid growth of the United States. Her merchant navy is next to that of France. With one law, one faith, and one flag, Canada has a limitless national existence before her.

The close of the lecture was eloquent and impressive, and the cheers which greeted Mr. Alward on taking his seat, showed that the expectations of the audience were fully satisfied.

PHRASES.

In every language there are certain phrases or forms of expression which are necessary to convey our ideas with effect and conciseness. Almost every vocation has its set of phrases, yet they are more common in some positions than in others. To trace the history of many of these convenient forms is somewhat interesting, and we give here a few which we have gathered. Some of the more nonsensical ones we are apt to think have no history, yet look at this trite phrase, "All in my eye and Betty Martin," which is said to be a corruption of the ecclesiastical ejaculation, "O mihi, Beate Martine,"—O me, Blessed Martin! The various uses made of phrases is noticeable. Here is a sarcastical allusion to inferiority, "Not fit to hold the candle to him," which points for its origin to the custom of employing boys in early times, to light persons through the unlighted streets of London. Thus it was, when Pope said,