

—On 1st Jan. last vol. iv of Murray's dictionary was complete, and vol. v finish to the midl of J.

—The American Dialect Soc'y publisht recently Notes on American-Norwegian with a vocabulary, twelv pages in all.

—“A Dissertation on Accents and Markt Letters by N. J. Werner” fills five pages of the St Louis Practical Printer for January. It is a “plea for uniform and scientific dictionary accents” to supersede the too numeros and puzzling ones now in comon use. We agree with him that “lesening the number of diacritic marks wil beautify the appearance of a page.” That is, the fewer of such marks the les the disfigurement, which “must apeal to the esthetic taste of all concernd.”

—The paper on fonetics last May at the first year exam's in Toronto University had ten questions. Among them wer: (1) Describe the vocal cords. To what cartilages ar they atatch? Explain how they ar bro't paralel and caused to vibrate. (2) Function of soft palat in formation of speech sounds? Illustrate by reference to at least two consonants and two vowels, shoing distinctions. (3) Define “vowel,” and criticize: “A vowel is a leter which may be sounded alone.” (4) Define “high” vowel; giv exampls of “high front” and “high bak” rounded vowels. (5) Giv sub-classes of “bak” consonants, with at least two exampls of each from difrent languages. (6) Discuss whether French t, d, l, n, s shud be clasifed as “point” or “point teeth” consonants. (7) Describe, uzing diagrams, the difrence in formation between English r and German (or Italian or Spanish) lingual r. (8) What is a “brethglide”? Giv exampl of a stop consonant folod by a breth glide in English, where a voiced glide is necessary in French (or Italian or Spanish).

—“Across the water” came Mr and Mrs Drummond's dainty greeting to the HERALD:

“Cristmas begets the kindest:
And erth a paradise becums
When we more ov Cristmas sho.”

—The English Dialect Dict'nary is finisht for words in G. Haf of them in H ar redy, and all is to be finisht about five years hence. It is publisht at pecuniary risk of its editer, Prof. Joseph Wright, who is engaged preparing an English dialect grammar. He collects fonograf specimens of dialects, partly to chek material for the grammar, partly to hand down to posterity a faithful record of dialects spoken at the 19th century's close. When peopl a hundred years herce debate how their ancesters spoke, they can apeal to the specimens.

—Co-laborer Werner is bak at St Louis. He spent last winter in Philadelphia; but May saw Mrs W. and him off to Europ (how we envid!) to pas sumer in travel, visiting relatifs and type-foundries, and seeing Paris exposition.

—Reforms in French grammar and spelling of which we gave an abstract on p. 63 ar givn in *Le Maître Phonétique* for Aug. and Sept-Oct. They wer authorized by the French Minister of Public Instruction on 31st July last.

—The French reforms mentiond above have been orderd to be taut by state authorities in Denmark and other cuntries including (marvelos to relate!) conservativ England where Civil Service Comisioners, the Oxford and Cambridge Local and Schools Examination Boards, and the Society of Arts, all recognize these reforms in their examinations.

—Students of French will be glad to no that a pamphlet of twelv pages has been publisht by Pitman's Sons, London (1 Amen Corner), Bath, and New York (33 Union sq.), for 2½d or 5 cents postpaid, and giving the French Grammar Reforms (its title) as mentiond above. It is a

simpl (wel done, not school-boy) translation of the French Education Bureau's recent order. It has numeros exampls and is intended to be slipt into bak of French grammar for reference.

—A stedily groing subscription list is indispensable to publication of these pages. Ther is not much fun in even a labor of love. We shal not stand stil: ther must be progres.

—Of Broomell's pamphlet (see p. 67) the Chicago Economist says: “It is an admirabl exposition, in small compas, of the crookednes of English spelling, and a strong argument in favor of reform. The whole scory of this evil is told. In these days converts ar made rapidly. The reform wil come gradually like other reforms.”

—Mr Boss, Chicago, rites: “I think Mr Broomell's pamphlet an admirabl campaign document. I endeavor to place it where it wil do most good. Printers and proofreaders hold the key to the situation. I find very many of more tho'tful ones favorably disposed. The Proofreader's Society meets to-night; I shal bring it up there. I believ the time ripe for a long step forward.”

—A singl bak number of THE HERALD may be had during the year to which the number belongs; after that, in yearly sets only. The sets for 1888 and 1889 ar nearly exhausted and wil be furnisht as parts of complete sets only—272 pages, archives of alfabetical progres from 1884.

—The spelling of Old French is stuidid largely from Roland's Song (la Chanson de Roland), elevnth century vers, 300 years before Chaucer. French wordforms since 1600 ar found in the Jesuit Relations and alied documents, explorator-t-avel records by French Jesuit missionaries in Canada and northern U. S., 1610 to 1791. An exact verbatim et literatim reprint of these rare French, Latin and Italian originals, manuscript and printed, acompanid page for page by a ful translation, is publisht by Burrows Bro's Co., Cleveland, O., (73 vol's 8vo, 300 pages each.) Each riter uzes wordforms a generation older than he. Its pages deserv study. Thus, ie for je and avoit for avait, vn and vne for un and une, sho that Pierre Ramee's two diferentials (j,u) had not taken establish place. Oh for a twentieth century Ramee to enlarge our alfabet by two or three more diferentials! The batl wud be, in efect, won. Again, faict (Latin, fact-) for modern fait, scavoir (Latin, scire) for savoir, sho that school pedants had their inings then in French as they had in our language.

—Dr Joseph Wright succeeds Max Müller in the chair of comparativ filology at Oxford. In 1870 a working lad of 15, unable to read, he spoke his nativ valy's Yorkshir dialect. Interestd by hearing talk of Franco-Prussian war then on, he lernd to read newspapers, taut himself Latin and Greek in diner-our and od intervals. Soon junior master in an unpretending school, he enterd London university, but soon found that to reach scholarship aspired to he must study in Germany. Funds carid him to Cologne, whence he trampd to Heidelberg in 1882, suporting himself there by teaching. In 1888 publication of his text-books on Midl and Old High German establish fame as a filologist. Onors then came. His age is 46. The chair brings £600 a year.

—An efectiv trinity for propogandism is that mentiond on p. 61, viz., ERNEST WORK, WISE, RIPE COUNSEL, MONEY. Reader, unless yu'r lazy, yu can giv a hand with one of them, perhaps two or all three. Do more than shout for the other felo to do something. That's not work.

—Use of Roman insted of Gothic type is a main plank with German spelling reformers. This comes gradually as statistics sho that forty years ago the proportion of Roman type uzed was but haf that now uzed: in 1861, 21.42 per cent; 1871, 27.96; 1881, 35.24; 1891, 38.74; 1898, 40.40. Most