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REVISED SPELING: 1. OMIT evry useles leter. 2. CHANGE d to t, ph to f, gh to f, if sounded so.

## LITERATURE.

## TRÉTÉ D'ECRITÚR FONETIK par Jules Ferrette.

This pamflet of 12 pages 8vo is in French in the alfabet of its author. It may be had postpaid for 40 centimes (8 cents) of A. Duvoisin, Lausanne, Switzerland. Such a contribution may be considerd from two points of view: 1, Fonetic; 2, Alfabetic.

As to Speech-analysis, it does not difer greatly from that givn generaly and for French especialy. French pronunciation is fuly and wel exemplified by puting it thruout in sound orthografy. The so-calld "neutral vowel" has ce as its sign and no distinction is made between it when an actual vowel, with vibration of vocal cords and with vocal fremitus, and when wanting these, being then no vowel but simpl breth making a fricativ nois. The distinction is however more necesary in our language than in any other—a distinction we hav repeatedly urged.

As to Alfabetics, a, e, i, o, ar used with Italian values, u is for French u, while w is for vowel in ooze - both of which later apear rong, The consonant w has two dots over it while the sound of our y is dubl-doted i. Close e, œ and o ar indicated by the acute accent; the grave accent denotes nasalization, Any one of the sevn vowel leters, a, e, i, o, u, œ, w may hav the circumflex over it. This is to indicate increast quantity or length (longueur), not difference of quality. C is used for sh which meets with favor in France where ch so comonly represents sh. We hav but few words in which it is so used : Machine, chicane, Chicago, Michigan, chivalry and a few others, but all, we believ, of French origin. It wil be seen that Ferrette's alfabetic views favor diacritics, which may meet with favor in France, where one-third of the yowels in curent orthografy is now markt, but wil hardly be tolerated in other tungs, especialy ours. Insted of marking length by the circumflex, it wud be beter to use the turnd period () of French Amend. Sp. Asoc'n, altho the accent mark is beter stil and all-suficient A beter way to distinguish the close vowels from the open ones is the raisd comma of our indefatigabl Connecticut frend, Knudsen, whose beter alfabetic solution might wel be tho'tfuly ponderd by our Swis author, and many of his sugestions adopted, as he apears farther on the road to an acceptabl alfabetic solution. The interested reader wil however find many points for tho't and shud get the pamflet.

## BRITISH-AMERICAN SPEECH.

The articl on Fonology by T. H. Kelog, M.D., (Pop. Science Monthly for Jan.) deservs careful consideration, altho all it contains can hardly be asented to, and in parts the meaning is obscure, due chiefly to ther not being in use a good system of notation to expres sounds in print, a "long-felt want" which must be suplied by some notation ere long. Dr. Kelog's articl compares cis-Atlantic with trans-Atlantic spokn Eng. He starts out by saying: "Decided diferences of pronunciation exist between educated clases in Eng. and U.S. and it is the object of this articl to sho in what these diferences consist." Manifestly he holds that ther is such a thing as standard speech for he tels us :

"Apart from dialects confined chiefly to the ignorant in varius shires, and overlooking slight individual variations, such as hav existed at all times in all languages, ther may be said to be uniform pronuciation of the mother-tung among educated clases. Even slight departures from generally acepted standard, especially if they ocur in original eler ints of language, strike the ear in an unfamiliar way, like sounds of a foren tung. Such departures hav arisen among colonists long and widely st\_arated from the mothercuntry."

His conclusion is:

"Ther ar cogent reasons for eforts to keep the fundamental sounds alike in the two cuntris, and it is the duty of all educated persons to correct such provincial or unauthorized (by dictionary? or whom els?) uterances of vowel.sounds as hav been here described, and to strive to preserv the purity (i.e., uniformity) of mother-tung. If this articl shal serv to awaken interest in this important subject or to aid in its study, its object wil hav been talfild."

## THROAT-SOUNDS.

The paper on Throat-Sounds by J. F. McCurdy, Ph. D., Lecturer in Oriental Languages, Univ. Toronto, was red before Filologic Section Can. Inst., on roth Jan. Its introduction briefly discust the kinds of sound made in the throat, or the modes of action of the larynx; how breathd or "flated" sounds and voist sounds ar made; the difference between chest and hed tones, and the nature and production of varius sorts of whisper.

The actual sounds wer then taken up in order of their formation from the glotis up: first, so-calld ruf breathings, and smooth ones, the later being traced thru varius langu<sub>2</sub>ges, as Eng., Ger., Danish, and Arabic, deep guturals formd in the glotis but with special naroing of cartilage, glotis, and forciol theoing of breth against the bak of farynx; then the ruf  $k^{*}ha$  and ghayin of Arabic wer treated and shown to be produst by bringing root of tung close to farynx and triling the uvula. These ar "tru guturals," surds and sonants respectivly.

Finaly, Ger., Scotsh, Gælic, and Dutsh, so-calld guturals wer pronounst and shown

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