

NEW SPELLING

LITERATURE.

STYLEBOOK OF THE CHICAGO SOCIETY OF PROOFREADERS. Published by Authority. Pp. 16, 12mo; Ben Franklin Co., 232 Irving av., 15 cents.

In many small points beside spelling, as abbreviations, use of capitals, citations, use of the hyphen, figures, italic and lower-case letters, division of words, punctuation and all that, printers find that conventional uniformity expedites their work—points (some of them at any rate) not essential to others, but essential to them because time- or money-wasting, they wish to no what experience dictates—how conventionalism has held when to do this, when to do that, when not to do another thing. For all hands to folo fixt rules givs neater and uniform results—hence this Stylebook, the latest addition to setl many points hitherto varying. In it we think we trace the hand of a Chicago Boss. From Caxton, 400 years ago, down to Horace Hart of the Clarendon Press in transatlantic circles and Henry K. Boss in cisatlantic ones this stereotyping or fixation proces has been going on. Ther is this difrence, however, between Horace and Henry: Horace is a cast-iron conservativ, while Henry is of ro't-iron, slightly flexibl—he not only permits but advocates beter spelling, and is not "hidebound". Evry practical printer shud hav this Stylebook as one of his labor-, time- and money-saving tools; as shud, too, evry literateur who wishes to rite mother-tung in "good form".

THE FIRST BOOK OF FONETIC READING, Adapted to a 30-letter Fonetic Alfabet by Prof. Candy, Fox Hill, Norwood, Eng., pp. 16, 24mo; Pitman, 1 Amen Corner, London, and 33 Union square, New York. Price, 1 penny.

THE SECOND BOOK OF FONETIC READING, 32 pages, *ibid.* Price, 2 pence.

The alfabet uzid in these primers may be described as Pitman's revized and improved, lucid, logical, legibl, consistent, a good way or tool to teach to read; but a transition reader will be requisit. As they ar so cheap, evry one shud get them for examination at least. This is beter than to giv a specimen or attempt analysis here.

As to Pronunciation, that is comendabl in genral, rarely questionabl. Receivd orthoepy is exemplified thruout. The vowels ar twelv in number, all monothongs, with the five difthongs that Pitman insisted on—three of the latter havin separat signs, two (ai, oi) uzed with their elements. The pronunciation so far is a harbinger that thirty-sevn millions of British need not difer greatly from dubl that number in America so far as concerns speech to be aimd at (Platform, \$9). If they difer much, ours as a world-language, as fallen on evil days—days when politicians siting at Quebec may agree, as shud scolars.

THE REFORMD READING PRIMER, a steppingstone to ordinary print. First Book, by R. W. Leftwich, M. D., Pitman, 48 p. 24mo, 15 c'ts.

THE INTERNATIONAL ALFABET, *ibid.*, 6d.

Besides, in preparation is a Second part, and Luke's Gospel. The four form a set for teaching to read by "algebraic notation", a small figure-like an algebraic index being placed after each letter, with 0 for silence. This method was uzed to denote English by two Swedes, Loewenh elm in 1863, Calwagen in 1897. A transition reader is unnecessary, Leftw eh justly claiming that "the natural tendency to shirk unnecessary labor will hav led him [the pupil] to dispens with reference to the figures as words become familiar. 'He wil therefore pas redily to ordinary print.'"

The International Alfabet "consisting of 109 symbols, givs, collated, all the 'powers' or sounds in English, French, German and Italian." It is a four-page table of equivalents in paralel columns—useful in comparativ fonetics.

CORRESPONDENCE.

NEARLY A CENTENARIAN.

SIR: I bear the weight of 95 years, but am refreshd by reading **THE HERALD**, and thank yu for sending it. My eye fails, so I hav to study it by instalments. I see that yu ar earnest and competent. Go on! I can only say hurah! I hope that the next generation wil not be stultified by retched spelling as we ar. When wil the glad day come? I want at least one new letter, one having the power of *avo*.

Cortland, N. Y. (REV.) H. LYMAN.
[May he liv to see it, like Simeon in Luke ii.]

AGENT-NOUNS—CANDY'S ALFABET.

SIR: I object to being styled Professor, with an e: it is cbanging the Language, not merely the Spelling, to obliterate the distinction between er and ir, on one hand, which I rite er; and or our ur, on the other, which I rite ur*, o open on top. Er denotes simply an agent: ur is something more. A ship is a sailer or steamer: the men in it ar Sailurs. A soliciter is one who begs: a Solicitur is a lawyer.

I claim that my set of vowels is neater and more systematic than any before; and that my new letters harmonize with the old. London, Eng. F. J. CANDY.

[*Prof. C's sign for the vowel in *come* or *up* is o open a-top, a cross between o and u, or u with tops bent in like a hors-shoe. How about ar in *pedlar, registrar, beggar, vicar*; yr in *martyr, satyr*?—EDITOR.]

WORD-REGISTER.

SPELLING AMENDED	PROPOSED ORTHOGRAPHY	COSMOPOLITAN ORTHOEPY
agley	agl	ə.glr, a.gle.i.*
amenity	ameniti	†
<i>carte blanche</i>		cart blaf
depute	depiūt	dɛ.piūt
deputy	depyuti	depyu.ti
franchis	franchiz	fran.tfiz, aiz-
Haiti, Hayti	Haiti	hai.ti-
of	ov	ov (colloq'l, əv)
off	of	of

*Q-glê', for a.gle', is the pronunciation givn by "A Standard Dictionary". Rev. Wm Wye Smith, St Catharines, Ont., edited the Scottish words for the Dictionary, and says the pronunciation intended is a.gle.i. Thru misunderstanding, defectiv notation, or other caus, this was not givn. In the Dictionary like variation has ocured with a number of Scottish words for which readers shud be on gard. Wright's new Dialect Dictionary givs ə.glr only. The word is comon thru Burns' lines (To a Mouse, wherin it is made to rime with "joy") having become proverbial:—

"The best laid schemes o' mice an' men
Gang aft a-gley,
An' lea'e us nought but grief and pain
For promis'd joy."

†It is work of supererogation to giv the pronunciation of "amenity" because all words that end with ity hav high stres on the sylabl just before -ity: a.men.i.ti. When pronunciation is not givn it is because one can redily infer it from the "linguistic habits" of his own tung.