

the English word *deed*. It is usually silent when *final*, except in proper names.

The principal exception to the above rule is when *d* is final just before a word beginning with a vowel or an *h* mute. In such a case the *d* has the sound of the letter *t* in the English word *top*; and in pronunciation is joined with the following word, as if it were its first letter, as will be seen in the two examples which follow, viz. :—

Un grand acteur, as if printed Un gran tacteur.

In another instance, *d* has also the sound of *t*, viz., at the end of the third person singular of the indicative mood of verbs of the fourth conjugation, when followed by the pronouns *il*, *elle*, or *on*. In these cases the *d* has the sound of the English *t*, and is joined to the following word in pronunciation, as if it were that word's first letter, namely :—

Entend-il ? as if printed Enten-til ?

F, f.—This letter is usually pronounced as the letter *f* in the English word *for*. It is sometimes sounded also in the end of words. In the French word *neuf*, which means *nine*, the *f* is silent when it precedes a word commencing with a consonant, thus : *neuf lis*, nine lilies, is pronounced as if printed *neu lis*.

But the striking peculiarity of this letter consists in the fact that it receives the sound of the letter *v*, as in the English word *vow*, before another word commencing with a vowel or *h* mute, and is joined with this word in pronunciation, as if it were its first letter, namely :—

Neuf animaux

Neu vanimo

Nine animals.

G, g.—Before the vowels *a*, *o*, and *u*, and the consonants *d*, *h*, *l*, *m*, and *r* in the commencement of French words, *g* has the hard sound of the letter *g* in the English word *got*, namely :—

Gosier

Go-zee-eh

Throat. | Globe

Glob

Globe.

The *g* final of the word *bourg*, a market town, is silent, and so it is also in the names of towns ending in *bourg* and *berg*, as :

Augsbourg pronounced Ogz-boor.

Cobourg

"

Ko-boor, etc.

Bamberg

"

Bamber, etc.

Nuremberg

"

Nurimber.

Before the vowels *e*, *i*, and *y*, the letter *g* has the soft sound of the letters *zh*, namely :—

Congé Konh-zhay

Holiday. | Gigot

Zhee-go

Leg of Mutton.

G final, before a word beginning with a vowel, or an *h* mute, takes the sound of the English *k*, and is connected with the following word in pronunciation, as if it belonged to that word, namely :—

Rang honorable as if printed Rahn konorabl.

G final, before a word commencing with a consonant or an aspirated *h*, is silent in French words, namely :—

Rang noble is pronounced Rahn nobl'.