

of readers, who, after reading a few numbers, find that it is as easy to read as the ordinary print, and that its scientific exactness adds a peculiar pleasure. It is like listening to the delicately articulated words of a polished orator. By its thorough analysis and representation of the sounds, it has a marked effect upon the reader's articulation, and by means of such spelling a universally correct pronunciation is possible. Whatever scheme is successful, there is but one verdict possible, "It must be a madman's work to be worse than our present orthography."

As Anglo-Saxons and Christians we must wish any movement success, which will facilitate the spread of the English language, and with it our civilization and religion. It is an international misfortune that a language, so well fitted as ours to be the medium of intercourse the world over, should be weighted with such a burden. "Spoken in the time of Elizabeth by a million fewer persons than to-day speak it in London alone, it now girdles the earth with its electric chain of communication, and voices the thoughts of a hundred million of souls." Spoken by such a mass of humanity spread over the whole world, only a rational system of spelling can preserve it in its entirety, and make its sounds to be ever the same familiar sounds wherever it is spoken.

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#### LUBBOCK ON LEAVES.

WHY is there such marvellous variety in the shapes of leaves, such an inexhaustible treasury of beautiful forms? Does it result from some innate tendency of each species? Is it intentionally designed to delight the eye of man? or have the form, and size, and texture, some reference to the structure and organization, the habits and requirements of the whole plant?

I do not propose now to discuss any of the more unusual and abnormal forms of leaves, but rather to ask you to consider with me the structure, and especially the forms, of the common every-day leaves of our woods and fields.