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REVISED SPELING: 1. OMIT ovry useless letter.
2. CHANGE d to t, ph to f, gh to f, if sounded so.

SPELED OF DECIMAL NOTATION.

Our problem is Speech-Notation, or an improved mode of indicating Speech-Sounds. Another change sloly taking place is Time-Notation, or introduction of the 24-hour plan of dividing the day. Mr. Sandford Fleming, Ottawa, the well-known author and engineer of the Canada Pacific and Intercolonial Railways, is pushing Time-Notation in a way we hope to notice later. Chemistry has already adopted a new Notation. Beside Chemic-Notation, Speech-Notation and Time-Notation, we hav Decimal-Notation, which, coming from India, by way of the Arabians, is now, after three centuris of strugl, the establishd mode of reknig generally. Its extension to Weights and Mesures, as wel as to Money, dates but a century bak—from French Revolution. For some 60 years bak ther has been an occasional "calling attention" in Britan to the advantages of having a Decimal-Notation for Money, Weights and Mesures. It is now being pusht a litl more vigorously. In an articl by W. W. Hardwick in *Longman's Magazine* (Sept. '87) we read:

"Most of us no the difficultis with which money transactions ar carid on in this cuntry [G. Britan] not only among ourselves, in lesser transactions of daily life, but in greater and more formidable ones of international comerce. By adoption of decimal system, much labor now wasted in trubsum reductions might be done away with. Such a clumsy system is unworthy a great nation..... G. Britan, India, Egypt and Ottoman Empire ar the only cuntries that hav not adopted a decimal coinage. Tunis wil probably adopt the French system."

Since India and Egypt ar under British thum and Turkey haf so, it folos that John Bul has nobody to keep him company except "the unspeakabl Turk"! Say, John, yur stupid conservatism has got yu into disreputable company. It takes yu 100 years to wake up to anything. Hadn't yu beter play dog-in-the-manger no longer, but "keep up with the procesion,"—adopt a a simpl and sensibl plan for spelng, money, weights and mesures. Yu no yur spelng is "too uterly awful" for anybody. Yu 'v got behind the age. Yu shud not lag behind this way—like a cow's tail, always behind! Don't let Rip Van Winkl. Wake up! Decimal coinage has been adopted by France, Belgium, Switzerland, Græce, Italy, Roumanie, Spain, Servia, Bulgaria, Finland, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Holland, Java, Austro-Hungary, United States, Canada (which adopted U. S. curenry in 1858) Newfoundland, Russia, Portugal, Peru, Venezuela, Chili, Columbia, Uruguay, Mexico, Japan, China (good for sleepy China), Brazil, Persia.

AMENDED SPELING IN FRANCE.

The "Congrès National des Instituteurs," or French Teachers' Assoc'n, met in Paris in Sept. In it, 40,000 teachers wer represented by 2,000 delegats. Three resolutions wer past, which, translated, ar:

1. We wud escape overwork in simplifying Orthograpy.
2. The Assoc'n expresses the wish that the French Academy and the Academie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres wud arrange for a joint Comission charged with consideration and introduction of rational simplifications into Orthograpy.
3. In examination for certifficat in elementary studis, Dictation shud be no longer "a pluking subject" (*éliminatoire*.)

The first resolution shows that they look to simplification of Sp. as at least a partial relief to cram and crush of studis, so much complaind of by us as wel as them, by spelng being made so simpl as to need but a fraction of the time now spent in trying to master its labyrinth intricacis—and then comonly not succeeding. The second calls for an authoritativ examination and pronunciamento. The third desires that les importance be attacht to arbitrary and traditional forms of words. In British civil service examinations the great majority of those "plukt" (or rejected) ar so from failure in this conventional subject of spelng, no mater how wel grounded a candidate may be in essential subjects. Beyond all dout, too great stres is laid upon Sp. We shud push in same direction as they.

The French Society for Amendment of Sp. has been in labor and has bro't forth! It appointed a comision to examine the alfabet question some months ago. This has now reported. The report is conceivd from a national rather than an international stand-point. Wherein national predilections conflict with international ones is what we hav now to consider. Taking up their report, we find they recommend that the foloing signs be used as we do: b, d, f, g (always hard), h, l, m, n, p, r, s, t, v, y, z. Ther is neither k nor w in the French alfabet. For the sound k, q is used, and not c, the later being put to do duty for sh, to which they appear led by the sound sh being so comonly represented by ch. We ar quite aware that color for this can be found in other orthograis. Yet we cannot help regretting this as a perversion of the use of this old Latin letter. Y is used for the first sound in yak, is the same as in our word yet. J is given the value of s in vision; which is not to be wonderd at when we consider that the sound is comon in French and represented now mostly by j. This use of j conflicts with our use of it (Consonants as in English). L *monillé* is denoted by L, whose use is optional; while n is used as a contraction for ny as in Bunyan, equivalent to tilde-markt n in Spanish. Coming now to vowels, we shal comit notation of nas-