

The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

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A PROMISE FULFILD.

In 1897 we promist that a simpl Notation wud be developept for use in these colums. This now appears in the new cover (four pages in red) tu our *Annual of New Speling*. This notation is a means, a tool, not an end in itself.

The Notation includes a schematic enumeration of most sounds in the receivd speech of principal modern languages and dialects. The scheme givs aproximatly the latitude and longitude of vowels and consonants between throat and lips in a way new and tru tu fisiologic facts.

The weak vowels in our tung receiv therin lucid, tho condenst, treatment.

The cover caries also our Platform now extended from 18 tu 33 planks.

Since 1897 ther has been time for consideration of many problems of speech, observation and critical comparison with others' work and digestion of their statements. The matters involvd wer so fundamental as tu forbid haste. Altugether it is tho't that considerabl advance may be heralded along right lines.

A LITL STEP.

To and who we shal hereafter spel with u insted of o. The w in who then becomes usesles and is dropt acordingly.

"MAORI."—On p. 141 yu say *Maori* is "an almost perfect rime with *dowry* dauri da-ŭ ri- (a as in *far*, its fundamental value)", making *Maori* a dissylabl. This *is* very comon, yet careful speakers giv tu each vowel a separat sylabl, exactly as in *Laodicea*. In *Maori* ao is never difthongal tho sylabls ar not sharply divided. The nativ difthong *is* au, as in *kauri* (a splendid timber-tree, yielding the famos resin highly prized by varnish-makers). *Maori* does not rime with *kauri*, a tru dissylabl variously spelt "cowry" and "cowree" in English books.—R. C. HARDING, Wellington, New Zealand. [We understand Mr H. tu mean ma-ō-ri-, tho o in *Laodicea* is o-mikron brief (ō). As ō and i ar under

EXPLANATION: OMIT usesles letters; CHANGE (if sounded so) *d* tu *t*, and *ph* or *gh* tu *f*.

medium stres, they weaken tuward or tu o, i (tu °, i, under substres) as in *Yankee*, *cofee*, *Milwaukee*, *Tuskegee* (yæŋki, cofi, milwo'ki, tɪskɪgi). "Maori" remains the form in both Old and New Speling.—EDITOR.]

NEW ENGLAND'S DECLINE.

On pages 163 and 197 atention was directed tu the decline of New England's dialect as peple that speak it die out tu be superseded by other races. We read:

The Vermont census discloses actual los of population from 1900 tu 1910. This stagnation in rural New England is most notabl in Main, New Hampshir and Vermont, but equally in upland vilages of Masachusets, Coneticut and the rural counties of New York state.—*World Wide*.

Ther is a decline in quality too. The New York *Evening Post* deplores

'the fading out of many a sturdy Puritan lin in which the men hav retaind only the finenes with litl efficieny, while the women hav transmuted intu a sort of febril spirituality the vital energy their mothers gave tu perpetuate the race.'

The causes of such decay lie far and deep. What has bro't about this cancer that has nearly wiped out New England and givn it tu foreners? The same cancer sprede tu other States and Ontario! North and South alike sho difrent kinds of malignancy. As Montesquieu rote of Rome's grandeur and decay (*Grandeur et Decadence des Romains*), some future Montesquieu wil record American decay.

The tap-root the *Post* struk has grown long and spred. Peter Kalm, a Swedish naturalist, visited French Canada and New England in 1749. His records ar authority for historians now. He compared the women in Canada and in New England. He said in part:—

"In their noledge of economy they greatly surpass the English women in the plantations, hu indeed, thro all burden of housekeeping on their husbands, and sit in their chairs all day with folded arms.

"The women in [French] Canada, on the contrary, do not spare themselves, especially among the comon peple."

We get light when this is compared with Goldwin Smith's question, askt in