

ter carefully examining his face.—
 “Well, you may call in about four years from now, and I will see what I can do.”

A St. Louis editor received in his morning mail by mistake, proof sheets intended for the employees of a religious publishing house. After glancing over them, he rushed to the sub-editor yelling, “Why in the world didn’t you get a report of that big flood; even that old, religious paper is ahead of you. Send out the full force for particulars. Only one family saved. Interview the old man, his name is Noah.

THE SPELLING REFORM.

Only 250 years ago many of our common words that appeared in statutes were not spelled as they are to-day. King was spelled *kyng*, having, *havyng*; form, *fourme*; so, *soo*; merchants, *marchaunt’s*. Muller has said: “In every language a reform of spelling is sooner or later inevitable.” Whitney adds: “Of all spelling in the world the English is the most absurd.” The general principle is that no sound should be represented by more than one sign, and no sign should represent more than one sound. Violations of the former requirement are seen in *flute*, *deuce*, *news*, *sluice*; of the latter in *rough*, *plough*, *through*. The irregularities of spelling are believed on good authority, to cause on the average two years of each child’s school life to be wasted. The si-

lent letters cost the country annually more than the interest on the public debt. Some curious results may be obtained if one spells by analogy. For example the well-known verses:—

“Tell me not in mournful slumbers
 Life is but an empty dream.”

may be rendered:—

Phthaiill chmey gnobt ikn chmourgnphoall
 gnelmbolohs
 Leighe us bught anne uegmghty driegm.

The justification—Phthisic, said, ill, drachum, key, gnaw, debt, knot, could, colonel, calm, colonel, height, guess, diaphragm, hiccough, plaguy, shriek.

It is difficult to recognize this as poetry, but it is a good argument for reform. The tenth annual meeting of the Spelling Reform Association was held in New Haven, July 9, 1885. The state of the reform is encouraging. Valuable articles have been printed in the *North American Review*, *The Nation*, and elsewhere. The movement has been helped by legislation in England, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania and Connecticut, and it is officially sanctioned by the Bureau of Education at Washington. Most of the leading men of letters in England and America favor the reform.

HOW TO VALUE MONEY.

NO MAN really understands the value of a dollar until he has worked hard to obtain it. We could point out scores of city boys