

any of them in any respect. There is not an objection, worth the name, against the system that has not been fully considered and satisfactorily disposed of. Not one of them could bear an investigation. The arguments in favor of it have not been argued in full, but any intelligent person will at once perceive that each may be proved. We don't wish any one to adopt the system if they have one doubt of what we give in its favor. Let them conscientiously examine the matter themselves, and they will be thoroughly convinced of the truth of every assertion we have made, both against the old and in favor of the new one. We leave it to any man, if modern spelling is not all that we have depicted! Spelling is something to be feared! How many men ever learn spelling? How many men never make a mistake in their pronunciation of words, both words they have often seen, and those that are new to them? The ancient Sphynx was a dullard in riddle making compared to the modern spelling master! Just think of the 90,000 riddles in spelling which the modern spelling master is prepared to shower down upon the unfortunate young urchins who are compelled to attempt a solution of them! Is it any wonder that so many never learn to spell? It would break the heart of a marble statue, or brazen image, to think of it. Woe unto the coming generation, that has such a herculean task before it! Think of solving 90,000 riddles, not one of which gives the faintest clue to any of the others! We

appeal to all teachers to do all in their power towards introducing a system of orthography which will overthrow our present barbarous system. Let each one of you think of the stupendous task you have mastered, the time it took you to do so, and the unremitting attention you were compelled to give to accomplish a task that might have been done in one-tenth, nay, in one-fifteenth of the time with ease and pleasure. Our present system is a disgrace to such an enlightened age. Our plea is pled. We stand before a jury of teachers. Our judges are educationalists, our audience the English speaking population of the world. Fathers, mothers, and schoolmasters of the world at large; ye who know the misery to both teachers and taught, which common spelling invariably ferments; elevators of our species, ye who know the awful amount of ignorance that prevails, and the inseparable connection which has been proved to exist between ignorance and crime; to you we appeal in full confidence of a ready and favorable hearing. Add your voice to that of the suffering people, that they may the more speedily attain that ease in acquiring the rudiments of knowledge which, now that they know the means of procuring, can only be delayed and not withheld. May we all live to see "this consummation devoutly to be wished."

Let us hope ere long to see the time arise,

By good men prayed for long,

When all mankind, grown just and wise,

Will use the right, and scorn what's wrong!