

vowel. But he gives it no distinct footing ; leaving his pupils to represent it in either of two ways, according as it is spelt with *u* and *r*, or, as is often the case, with *e* and *r*. Compare "*furs*" and "*her*" in the couplet.)

Following Walker but not Webster, Pitman omits from his catalogue the sound of *a* in *spare* or *care*, or of *ea* in *bear* or *ai* in *pair*. In his couplet he treats it merely as a subordinate or slightly shaded form of the *a* or *ai* in *Spain*, *cane*, *bane*, and *pane* or *pain*, produced by the influence of the succeeding *r*.

But, for that matter, Pitman's is the view commonly taken up to the present time by the grammarians and lexicographers of England, France, and Italy, if not of Germany also. Ollendorff's French-Italian grammar, for instance, gives to the *e* in the second syllable of *credete* the same sound as to that in the second syllable of *credere* ; Noël and Chapsal, taking their stand wholly upon accent-marks, would make the uttered vowel of *grève* identical with the uttered vowel of *frère*.

Yet let us look again at the effect of *r* upon certain vowels that it follows.

Walker calls the *a* in *mart* the long Italian *a* sound, and the *a* in the French word *matin* (as it truly is) the corresponding short sound ; and he also treats the *o* in *corn* as the long form of the *o* in *con*. By analogy and an appeal to sensitive ears, we have further concluded that the *u* in *burn* is the long form of the *u* in *bun*.

Now, in not one of the long-sounding words here given is the *r* pronounced at all : it simply effects the exchange of a short vowel for its correlative long one. But no more is it pronounced in *care*, *bear*, and *pair* or their cognates ; and by substituting participial forms of the same words or of words having the same sound, we get *cared*, *bared*, and *pared*, which are in perfect analogy with *mart*, *corn*, and *burn*. We ask our readers to conclude that *cared*, *bared*, and *pared*, or *care*, *bear*, and *pair*, contain the respective long forms of the vowels heard in *cad*, *bad*, and *pad*, or *carry*, *Barry*, and *parry*.

Is the sound heard in *care* a simple vowel or diphthong ? We answer, a diphthong—composed of the short *e* in *met*, followed by the short *u* in *bun*. Utter them quickly together, and judge for yourself.

It is remarkable that in Anglo-Saxon many words to the vowels of which we now give the sound of *a* in *carry* were written with *ae* diphthong, which is the way wherein the Germans now represent the sound of *a* in *care* (at least when a word begins with a capital letter—otherwise by *ä*). Thus *at*, *back*, *bast*, and *cap* were originally *aet*, *baeck*, *baest*, and *caeppe* ; and our great Alfred's name was written *Ælfred*. If our word *had*, in the sense of *ordered*, be descended from *hatan* to *bid*, and *have* in the present tense for *order* be a corruption, then the inscription round the jewel found near the Isle