

II.—EXERCISES ON ARTICULATION.

1.—â as in ah.

22. This is the fullest and purest of vowel-sounds. It is unfortunately, somewhat rare in our language, and therefore should be jealously preserved where it exists. In pronouncing the following words the tongue should be kept low in the mouth, and the sound somewhat prolonged. The lips should not be rounded, otherwise the common error of substituting *aw* for *ah*, will result :—

Alms, (not *ămz*), balm, calm, calf, psalm, half, salve (*sâv*),
can't, (not *cănt*), aunt, (not *ănt*), spa,
laugh, (not *lăff*), launch, draught,
are, arm, art, mart, far,
pass, past, vast, mast, rasp, (not *răsp*),
bath, lath, aft, raft, waft.

Accented on the first syllable.

laundry, malmsey, (*mâm'zē*), bravo, Brahmin,
master, pastor, drama, rather,
raspberry, (*râs'-bēr-ī*), man-sard, (*măn'-sârd*),
rhubarb, (*rô'-bârb*), pariah, (*pâ'-ri-â*) Fahrenheit (*fârn'-hīt*)

Accented on the second syllable.

mirage, (*mīr-âzh'*) pâlâver, piano, pacha, (*pa-shâ'*), pětârd,
sonata.

Accented on the third syllable.

panorama, boulevard.

REMARKS.

1. In words ending in *-and*, accented on the final, many good speakers now give the *a* the sound *â*. This practice is gaining ground.

2. There is a class of monosyllables ending in *-aff*, *-aft*, *-ass*, *-ast*, *-ask*, *-asp*, with a few in *-ance* and *-ant*, to which many good speakers give the sound of *â* as, *stăff*, *grăft*; while others give that of *ă*, as, *stăff*, *grăft*. Probably the true sound is between these limits, differing from that of *â* merely by the