

The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

VOL. II, 19.

TORONTO, CANADA, July, 1901.

NR. 69.

EARLY STEPS.

Our continental rivals ar, fortunatly for themselves, les afraid of being calld faddy. The German government has introduced sevral important improvements in speling German, and the French government has recently folod suit by oficialy sanctioning simplification of some trublsome rules of French gramar. With a litl goodwill by boards of education and newspaper editors, it o't to be posibl to introduce minor changes, apreciable tho small, if no more than get rid of e in *have, live, give*, or superfluos l in *fill, fill, will, shall, mill, kill*, etc. Milions of superfluos leters ar ritn and printed evry day, and time and ink wasted must make a large sum. We cud, if inclined to rekles revolution, get rid of a in *death, head*, etc., and go so far as risk a national calamity by droping gh from *plough*, and ugh from *though, thorough*.—HAROLD COX in *Westminster Gazette*(e).

In speling reform precept is good, practis is beter. Any expedient that removes shynes in practising wel-considerd reforms is a force. The mark of elision in tho' and thoro' is a good introduction. A hundred years ago the participi in -ed was frequently represented by 'd. Cud not timid reformers aply this transition form to certn N.E.A. spelings, as catalog', pedagog', even program'? This wud harden into riting hav', giv', ar', etc. THE HERALD uzes this in marking the place of the extinct gurgl ugh in mid-word [as o't for *ought*, bo't for *bought*, tho't for *thought*]. Eyes thus become uzed to forms that reason enjoins. A sign of the times is, American jurnals openly advocate reform; our publications temporize. I enclose £1—to be aplyed as yu think best.

England.

E. L. P.

A LITL CURAGE WANTED.

Imagin a strong intelligent man afraid to drop e from *have, give, live!* Is it worthy a race with such valor? Is valor ded? I cannot think it. Then sho it by riting: enuf, helth, erth, gest, askt, screend, det, sno, etc. Why rite unnecessary leters? We spend no more money than is needed; why waste time when we can save it by adopt-

ing shorter spelings? Ther is no law to prevent establishment of rational speling. Why fear to act acording to reason? Mr Herbert Gladston dared wear a straw hat during last sesion of parlement. Next sesion others wil folo his sensibl cours, and get rid of hevvy "chimney-pots" and oppressiv "felts." If hats subserv man, so shud speling. It required some curage by Gladston with light and helthy covering to face an asembly of aristocrats, but the comfort was worth efort—so wil eforts to popularize telefone, telegraf, foren, iland, geografy, definit, trubl, etc., benefit all who teach, read, rite or type. If the world laf, laf with it, laf it out of a bad habit of speling into a beter by riting: cours, luv, nolej, atmosfere, dwel, tel, sel, litl.

In this century let us all get rid of some of the lumber that encumbers our *own* speling. We can if we wil. If we don't, is it becaus we ar cowards?

H. DRUMMOND.

KEEPING IT UP—NO HALTING.

The Toronto World, a morning daily in its 22d year, is now the first daily that we no of to adopt as progressiv speling as it does. It is now in the second year of such practis. It bakt up its practis by nearly a colum as its first editorial one morning lately in which it said:

"Tho we stil stand alone among Canadian newspapers as practical advocats of speling reform, we ar by no means sorry or dissatisfied. We hav got over trepidation. . . . for our bold step, as results hav justified risk. Our reputation as advocat of reforms that tend to advance humanity has increast among progressiv, uptodate peopl, with no los of influence or prestige among ultra-conservativs. . . . A daily paper can take a hand in reforming speling without sacrificing circulation or influence. No newspaper need hesitate to folo *The World's* exampl for fear of losing cast or sufering pecuniary damage."

Its outlook is hopeful, even confident:

"Nothing seems more certn than adoption of reformd speling in a reasonabl time. This age is too practical to be handicapt forever by impedimerts to larning. Surely in this twentieth century men wil not cary crutches when they can move about so much more quikly without Our clumsy, burdsome and unscientific speling cannot long withstand clean-cut scientific methods of the new era."

After estimating that one-fourth the