

of Germany, including especially 'received German' with no æ at all. Denote "intermediats" all by a. This accords:

The vowel in *chant, past*, varies with difrent speakers . . . with varios intermediat sounds, and is here, with intentional ambiguity, indicated by a, as *tant, past*, (without determining quantity or quality).—N. E. D., page 1.

Two difthongs ar implicated, as is explained in Report to Mod. Lang. Asoci'n (p. 6): "The changed values of a and a involv riting ai, au, for the difthongs in *time, house*, insted of ai, au."

Use of one sign (a) is now rectified. For right use of another (o) we shal hav to wait so long! Quousque tandem abutere patientia nostra!

OLD-LETTER SCHEMES

In the erly '80s the Eng. Speling Ref'm Aso'n restld with plans to represent pronunciation with what is in the printer's case, excluding markt letters. 28 schemes wer examind; and all but 7 rejected. The same words wer printed in each of the 7. (In America Vickroy publisht a part of each.) The final plan selected, publisht 1884, was stilborn. Other plans folod in England. In America digrafs find no favor. Except Mrs Burnz' plan hardly one other can be named.

In Aug., '08 Mr S. E. Bond, Wellington-in-Somerset, British Iles, issued a leaflet (postpaid 2½d a doz.) deserving careful, critical attention for its good points. It has i, e, a, o, u, u, for "short" vowels in *it, pet, pat, pot, up, put*; with ie, ei, aa, oa, ou, uu, for "long" ones, and oi, ai, au, as real difthongs; He tels us of

"dhi aparent dificulti ov prodysing, widh prezent materialz, a reyregular and lojical alfabet [orthograf?], widhaut rendering its apierans unkuuth and repulsiv. Yet ai believ, and houpful submit dhistext az pruuf, dhat it iz posibl tu rait English in a stail sufshentli saientifik tu bie apruuvd bai skolarz, and sufshentli esthetik tu bie apruuvd bai personz ov teist, and an imparshal publik.

"Dhi daigrafs representing long vauelz oal kontein dhi leterz ov dhi koresponding short wunz aproximetli, and ar tu dhat extent lojikal.

"Dhei ar oal faund in kontinental languejez, and wil dheirfour bie akseptabl tu forenerz, hu inkriesingli studi English, and wud du sou much mour but for aur irregular and difkult speling."

We recall Mr Ben Pitman's plan givn on p. 155, a revision of that on p. 128. He put out a litl volume (Solution of Alfabet Problem) bound and decorated artistically, containing select sayings and Gray's *Elegy*

NOTES ON PRONUNCIATION.

(Continued from page 199).

(e) Many speakers avoid obscuration; saying, for exampl, rek'rd, ef'rt, mōm'ent, en'mi. . . . Remember . . . we but provide a Notation for speech facts. To weaken a vowel is such a tact, and a very important [becaus comon] one.—*Report of J. C.*, p. 31.

(f) The sign generally employd by fonecicians [for the weak neutral] is ə. . . . We prefer ə, an easy modification of 'a.' It looks like ə, while in many words, such as sepəret, daiselect, sōfə, norməl, it has a not unwelcome suggestion of 'a', with which it is closely related.—*Ibid.*

(g) E. R. Edwards, a Londoner, givs (in *Maitre Phon.*, '08, p. 112) a stanza of Tenyson's *Brook*, first, as recited by a Cokny scoolboy; second, "in standard suthern English," whatever that may mean. We don't no a standard suthern. "Standard" English sprang from the midland countries, is givn in pronouncing dictionaries, of which two (*NED* and *Standard*) wer specially chosen on p. 162-3, and they with Ellis' wonderful work ar setlment enuf. Midland speech prevaild in London until 1850 and is stil herd from old Londoners. Mongrel Suthern-Cokny is not "received speech" any more than Bowery-Gotham's. Special pleading that London is "the capital" is bosh. A line from Cambridge thru Birmingham, Liverpool, Dublin, Buffalo, Detroit, Chicago, is a better aproximat.

(h) We suppose Edwards means normal or average suthern, not "standard" as others do. Pasing over his specimen of Cokny, we transliterate his Suthern into HERALD-NOTATION:

ai cam fr'm ho'nts 'av cuwt and haa'n,
ai meik 'a sadn sæli,
'and spaakl aut 'amaj ð' fAA'n,
tu bik' daun 'a væli.

A turnd period (·) givs strong stres; the accent (˘) givs high tension, distinguishing "narō" from "wide" vowels (Bell). Tense ones, a markt element of English speech, ar uncomon with nativ Americans. Before dropt r, ʌ is held (AA), tense and closer than our ʌ. Our *fern* is farn, with ʌ in *fun* modified by r. Edwards' cuwt (or cu^wt) is cū^t here. *Out, down*, seem æut, dæun, with most Londoners now; yet E. givs aat^h, daan, as Cokny. With aged Londoners aat, daun, is yet herd and prevails here.

(i) Mr John Uri Lloyd says of the melo speech of the suthern Negro:

If this Suthern accent be due to corruption of language, as some asert, it is delightfully bewitching, and, I believ, if it is ever abandond, English will not be the gainer, while the South will be the loser.—*Dialect Notes*, vol. ii, p. 179.

(j) In an eco foloing Roosevelt's manifesto the New York *Nation* remarkt

"the very swallos in their annual migration become sucessivly 'buhds,' 'boids,' and 'burds.'" In the South where r is dropt *bird* is baad; over the Bowery, much of N. Y. city, Jersey and Brooklyn, boid; while "up-state," where r is kept, it is bard. *The Standard* givs e tending to ʌ in colouqy in *bird, fern*. Larison insists that *bird, birth*, hav i.