

# The Fonetic Herald

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND REVISED SPELING.

2<sup>ND</sup> YER. PORT HOPE, CANADA, JUN, 1886. N<sup>R</sup>. 16.

## STAGES OF PROGRES.

It is not wise to ask the general public to accept any form of spelng more simplified than that caild

### REVISED SPELING

givn by Rules A and B of which pres-  
ent spelng affords exempl. It rectifies  
a great deal altho simpl. Such farther  
moderat revision as may from time to  
time be made in the same direction  
shud be included in this term Revised  
Speling. This term appears apropiat  
becaus sugesting the obvious paralel to  
Revised Translation of the Bible. Evry  
one can claim the same authority for  
both—the highest scolarship. Many  
wil think it too moderat. Such shud  
recolect that the public clings to old  
forms from simpl custom long after  
comon sens has condemed them. The  
German prefers the old German carac-  
ters long after admision that Roman  
forms ar superior. Our laity stil pre-  
fer a translation ofneaneus to a cor-  
rect one. We hav recently seen the  
statement that the French pesant stil  
clings to the old irregular system of  
weights and mesures before a decimal  
system.

### PRONOUNCING ORTHOGRAFY

is such as has provided a separat sign  
for each vowel (including diphthongs,  
altho this is matr of opinion) with fixt  
letr or digraf for each consonant. We  
then hav an approximatly accurat rep-  
resentation of the sound which need  
not depart greatly from word forms in  
current use. As to what set of signs  
shal be used ther is difference of opin-  
ion. We hav used a certain set to giv  
orthoepy of words. See pages 44, 48.  
The same shape is always employd to  
denote the same quality of sound; the  
accent mark is an indicator of quanti-

ty all sufficient for ordinary purposes.  
Such orthografy may be used in sen-  
tences and paragrafs for reading. So  
the correct orthoepy of words is readily  
taut, practist and imprest on the mind.  
In paragrafs, unles otherwise exprest,  
the first syllbl is understood to be ac-  
cented. It is a rule that the accent  
tends to the first syllbl. An exempl  
wil be found in Sowing and Reaping.

### SCOOL ORTHOGRAFY

is a stage scarcely les accurat than that  
just givn, and differng from it in that  
'a' is used for the two vowels in *at* and  
*arm*; 'u' is used for the vowel in *rule*  
as wel as in *put*, as also by consequence  
u for either when y'd. When *oo* stands  
for vowel in *rule* in the old spelng, it  
may stil be employd. Scool Orthografy  
is a means of teaching a fairly accurat  
pronunciation. It has the merit that  
it leavs optional the vowel in a certan  
clas of words, as for exempl whether  
fast or fast is the pronunciation of *fast*.  
An illustration is given by the May Song.

A stage intermediat between Scool  
and Revised Speling may be necesary.  
Its limits can be givn in future. We  
then hav four stages which in order ar

1. Revised
2. Intermediat
3. Scool
4. Pronouncing.

—A litl felo in a primary scool, hav-  
ing corectly speld *knife*, askt the teach-  
er a puzzler 'But what is the *k* for?'

—A. N. Merriman, principal of the  
Hayes Scool, Chicago, says: "The most  
difcilt thing we hav to teach is *speling*.  
It is a long, hard, laborius and almost  
hopeles task, and *hinders us* in all the  
other brar-hes. This system [speling  
by sound] reliev us of all our trubl.  
This is re... abl, plain, simpl and dir-  
ect and o't to hav been made and ad-  
opted five hundred years ago."