

## NEW SPELLING

timat selection wil largely depend on the amount contributed, and the wishes of the majority of contributors. It is proposed to hold Sexagenary Celebration meetings in London in August or September, including a conference of shorthand teachers. Meanwhile, expresions of opinion ar invited from contributors with any suggestions as to the best form of memorial."

**CAXTON'S SPELLING.**—In 1484 a book of vers ritn by that mery monk, John Lydgate, of Bury St Edmunds, was "imprynted by Wyllym Caxton." As Lydgate was "poet laureate," most of his work was "at the commandment" of Henry V. This is the way Caxton speld and capitalized the ending of this book:—"Here endeth the **BOOK OF THE LYF OF OVR LADY** made by dan Iohn lydgate monke of bury at thynstaunce of the moste crysten kyng kyng harry the fyfth." When it is remembered that gothic or medieval blak-leter then prevailld, it is plain that word-forms hav undergon revolution since then.

**"CASE" AND "PLEA."**—The best three tracts in favor of amenling spelling ar perhaps: first, "The Case for Spelling Reform;" a compilation (by Mr H. Drummond) of opinions of eminent educators and many others; second, an abridgment of "A Plea for Phonetic Spelling," by A. J. Ellis, B. A.; third, Prof. Max Müller "On Spelling," reprint of an artiel in *The Fortnightly Review*, but now quite out of print. Since 1894, however, it has been included in editions of his "Chips from a German Workshop," and so is accessibl. We suply copis of the *Case* and *Plea* at a cent each and postage.

### ORTHOEPY AND ORTHOGRAFY.

It seems necessary to keep a few important points in view. One is that pronunciation when colloquial ofn difers a good deal from its solem, distinct, vocabulary or dictionary form. Bell has taut this distinctly. See *Sounds and their Relations* where, at pages 72 to 78, is givn in Visibl Speech symbols a considerabl quotation from Sydney Smith, first in "vocabulary," and then, for comparison's sake, in "colloquial style." Slurs and elisions ar frequent in the latter. These ar allowabl and posibl becaus expresion in features and tones makes the meaning plain to one or a few hearers especially if helpt by gestures. Thus, "if I had" and "if I wud" ar both "f I 'd," pronounced faid or foid, to rime with *wide*. So, "if he had" and "if he wud" become fid, to rime with *weed*. A corespondent gave an account (*HERALD*, vol. i, p. 187) of the oath administerd con-

cluding "swelpya.God"—where one wud expect solem enunciation. The British & Foreign Bible Society hav publisht John, iii, 16, in over two hundred tungs, furnishing a specimen of the Orthograpy of each. It is in pamphlet form, an interesting study, to be had on application at any branch. *The Maitre Phonétique*, Paris, is publishing the same from time to time in Orthoepy, mostly colloquial, ofn dialectic. We take it and giv it as

I—*Colloquial Orthoepy*: fər.gəd· sɒ·ləvɔd· ðə.wɜrld· ðæt.ɪ.gæv· ɪz·ɒn·li·bə.gɒt·n:sən· ðət.hū·swev.ər. bæ.lɪv.əp.ɒrəm. fud.nɪt.pərɪf. bət.æv. ev.ər.læst.ɪg·ləɪf. Another may say: ðæt.hū·sɒ·ev.ər. bæ.lɪv.əp.ɒr.ɪm. fud·nɒt·pərɪf· bət.hæv· ev.ər.læst.ɪg·ləɪf· These ar exampls of speech in this region—that of the great lakes. In the south of England one wud be likely to hear: fə.gɒd· sɒ·ləvɔd·ðə.wɜrld· ðæt.ɪ.gæv· ɪz·ɒn·li·bi.gɒt·n: sən· ðæt.ū· swev.ə· bæ.lɪv.əp.ɒr.ɪm fud·nɒt·pərɪf. bət.æv· ev.əlæst.ɪn.ləɪf· In Scotland, *God* is gɒd, *world* is wɜrld: But what about Ireland, Wales, north and midland England, south Africa, Australia, New York City, etc.? From the pulpit we get

II—*Solem Orthoepy*: for· god·sɒ·ləvɔd· ðə.wɜrld· ðæt·hɪ·gæv· hɪz·ɒn·li·be.gɒt·n: sən· ðæt·hū·sɒ·ev.ər. be.lɪv.əp.ɒr·hɪm. fud·nɒt·pərɪf. bət·hæv· ev.ər.læst.ɪg·ləɪf·

III—*Orthograpy*: For God sɒ luvd ðe wɜrld ðæt hɪ gæv hɪz ɒnli begotn sɒn ðæt hūsoever beliveth on him shud not perish but hav everlasting lɪf. An esteemd corespondent in Chicago sugests uzng as an alternativ to the dɪthong ai some singl symbol: hence we hav ventured to try.ɪ in *life*. Shud it hav further trial?

To sum up, colloquial orthoepy is very *variabl and unstable*; the solem orthoepy of cosmopolitan speech, comparativly *fixt*.

**KEY:—** I—AMENDED SPELLING. OMIT use'les letters; CHANGE (if sounded so) d to t, ph or gh to f; let -er denote agent-nouns.

II—ORTHOGRAPY.  
a æ e i i o ô d u u ũ  
as in at art eil ale ill eel nor gnawer nou put do  
ask err not lawu

ðð, in *thy*, is restored Anglo-Saxon crost d. A fuller list of key-words is on p. 4, n<sup>o</sup> 51.

III—ORTHOEPY.  
See *THE HERALD* for April, 1897, p. 4.

IV—FONETICS.  
This wil be developept later.

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