

## Lección Primera

( First Lesson )

### A (pronounced *ah*)

NOTE A.— The Spanish *a* is heard approximately in the English words *are*, *past*, *half* etc. It has never the sound of *a* in *war*, nor any other sound than the above. Pronounce the consonants as in English unless otherwise directed.

A,	la,	ya,	va,	mas,	mar,	mal,
(ah)	(lah)	(yah)	(vah)	(mass)	(mar)	(mal)
To,	the,	yet,	goes,	more,	sea,	bad, ill,

NOTE B.— In words of more than one syllable, *accent the syllable before the last*, that is, pronounce it with a little more stress than the others. In doing this, however, be careful not to alter the vowel sound in the other syllables, as one is apt to do in English. Thus, *cár-ta* (not *car-tuh*). *pa-tá-ta* (not *pah-tah-tuh*). Give each vowel its true sound.

La <i>cár-ta</i> ,	<i>ná-da</i> ,	la <i>cá-sa</i> ,	la <i>plá-ta</i> ,	<i>pá-ra</i> ,
(lah <i>car-tah</i> )	(nah-dah)	(lah <i>cah-sah</i> )	(lah <i>pluh-tah</i> )	(pah-rah)
The letter,	nothing,	the house,	the silver,	for,

Pa-tá-ta,	can-sá-da,	a-má-da,	pa-lá-bra.
(pah-tah-tah)	(can-sah-dah)	(ah-mah-dah)	(pah-lah-brah)
Potato,	tired,	loved,	word.

### e (pronounced *ay*)

NOTE C.— This vowel has practically the same sound as the English *e* in *they*, *prey*, etc. It must never be given any other sound.

El,	él,	es,	en,	de,	mes,	tres,	(I)
(ail)	(ail)	(aice)	(ain)	(day)	(maice)	(traice)	
The,	he,	is,	in,	of, from,	month,	three,	

(I) *El*, *the*, and *él*, *he*, are pronounced alike. The mark over the second word is merely to distinguish it from the first.