

Indeed who would not welcome, center, savior, traveler, quartet, cigaret, program, colum, solem and every natural improvement, but who on the other hand would not abominate thru, tho, nu, or, at which are substitutes instead of simplifications?

In different parts of a country, in fact in the same vicinity, we may observe how pronounciations vary. This being the case, we can suppose what might be the result if we spelled as we pronounced and this, I say, is the object of the new Spelling Reform. Naturally we would have many distinct dialects in a very limited area. If this phonetic idea is allowed to gain favor, as it is proclaimed today, nothing else but a chaos in the language will follow. Some will approve of it, some will disapprove of it and of the former many will disagree, as there is no solid foundation to their work, though they may have supposed they were starting on the right path of simplification.

Mr. Fleming then spoke for the negative.

MR. CHAIRMAN, etc.—We will begin from the beginning, examine and find out the natural tendency followed by the different nations, in building up literature. We all know that the Roman alphabet is in use practically all over the civilized world. At the time when this code of letters was chosen, there were two great alphabets in existence, namely the Greek and the Roman. Now, Mr. Chairman, the scholars of Europe unanimately adopted the Roman in preference to the Greek alphabet. And why did the ancient scholars of Europe prefer the Roman to the Greek alphabet, when they were embarking on the difficult task of forming new languages, when they were nursing and moulding the languages of France, England and Germany? The Greek alphabet represents a language of as great an array of literary writers as the world has ever seen, and why did the ancient scholars of Europe prefer the Roman alphabet to one representing a greater language. Mr. Chairman, they chose the Roman in preference to the Greek alphabet because it was simpler, and I am sure that everyone in this Hall is grateful to them for so doing. No one of common sense is desirous of being vexed and bothered by the knowledge that there are half a dozen ways of writing one letter which is only one of the many complexities of the Greek language. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, the first step toward simplified spelling was taken,