

# The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELING.

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N<sup>o</sup>. 72.

## OPINIONS.

Simplification of English orthografy wud facilitate lerning to read.—J.S. MILL.

In the interests of etymology, I wish the comon spelng wer utterly smash't.—PROF. SKEAT.

Ther is much that might be done with advantage in the reform of English spelng.—W. E. GLADSTON.

Retention of the presnt spelng simply shows the mighty power of tradition without reason or even comon sens.—COL. F. W. PARKER, University of Chicago.

Our unsientific, blundering, mudling spelng is the greatest evil which assails the education of English-speaking youth.—DR WM H. WARD, editor of *The Independent*, New York.

No greater relief cud be givn youth than a reasonabl modification in favor of simplcity as against presnt complexity and numeros anomalies of our accursed spelng.—L. H. JONES, superintendent of scools, Cleveland, Ohio.

A more lying, round-about, puzl-heded delusion than that by which we confuse the pure instincts of truth in our accursed system of spelng was never concocted by the father of falsehood..... How can a system of education flurish that begins by so monstros a falsehood, which the sens of hearing sufices to contradict?—BULWER-LYTTON.

More serios is ..... the actual mischif done by subjecting yung minds to the illogical and tedios drudgery of lerning to read English as speld at presnt. Evrything they hav to lern in reading (or pronunciation) and spelng is irrational; one rule contradicting another, each statement accepted simply on authority, with complete disregard of all those rational instincts which lie dormant in the child, and oft to be awakend by evry kind of helthy exercise.—Prof. MAX MUELLER.

No system of spelng can be so simpl but that it needs to be taut and governd by rules. The plausibility, "Rite as yu pronounce," is crude and impracticabl.—Prof. C. W. KNUDSEN.

—This invites *yu* to subscribe.

## NEWS-NOTES AND COMENTS.

—*The Century* magazine (Aug., '01) has over five pages on Simplification of Speling by Prof. Brander Matthews from which we shal quote when space permits. Magazine articls ar important for propagandism.

—“A comon-sens movement” is how Mr Hodgson, an inspecter of Ontario High Scools, characterizes amended spelng.

—Mr and Mrs Drummond's greeting at Xmas dropt into vers in this spelng:

“God bles our nativ land,  
May Heven'z protecting hand  
Stil gard our shore,  
May pees her power extend,  
Fo be transformd to frend,  
And Britain'z rihts depend  
On wor no more.”

—The British *Produce Market Review* advocates the metric system and reformation of English spelng.

—More, *Commercial Intelligence* inserts letters urging use of shorthand in law courts and simplified spelng in comercial corespondence.

—The German Orthografic Conference (explaind on our p. 77) met at Berlin 17th to 21st July. It was composed of delegates from difrent states of Germany and Austria. Its object was les the simplifying of spelng as making uniform (or causing to disappear litl difrences in) official orthografies in difrent states. [It workt then on the lo plane of Variant Spelings]. On one point it authorized an important simplification: reduction of th to t [which sound th has always in German] in all words of German origin. They now rite Tal, Tor, Teil, Tat, tun, insted of Thal, Theil, etc.—Le Maitre Phonetique. [Th is kept when from Greek theta, a concession to derivation presumably temporary.]

—*Der Deutscher Buch- und Steindrucker* of Berlin (Sept., '01) says: “The orthografic question is important for the scoolbook trade. Das Boersenblatt reports briefly that nothing definit can be said as to when the new orthografy wil be oficialy anounced and introduced into scools. The results of the Orthografic Conference, at which attended, as representativs of the Financial Committee of the German Booksellers' Association, Mr Ernst Vollert (of the book hous of Weidmann, Berlin) and Dr Alfred Giesecke (of B. G. Teubner, Leipzig) ar now oficialy fixt, and nothing remains but to obtain consent from the varios participating German governments to decisions reacht by the Conference. As soon as this is got the new book of rules wil be publisht. Shud this not be possibl by Oct. 1st. it is hardly likely that the Prussian government wil require that by Easter publishers hav redy scoolbooks in new orthografy. In any case, it is advisabl that publishers of scoolbooks do not begin preparation for printing before next fall.”

—The foregoing news item is a remarkabl picture: a nation alert to revi e and make uniform the wordforms of its language which do