

of the departments of spelling and pronunciation in the forthcoming Standard Dictionary, is President of the Spelling Reform Association, and many of the collaborators on this work believe in logical spelling. In England, Dr. James A. H. Murray, editor-in-chief of the Philological Society's Dictionary, the greatest lexicographic work on the English language ever undertaken, is an unhesitating advocate of orthographic reform, as is Prof. Walter W. Skeat, author of the Etymological Dictionary. If English spelling were to be made phonetic next year, or in 1900, a few persons might cry, "Give us back our silent letters," as the mob cried, "Give us back our eleven days," when the calendar was changed from the old style to new; but only a few months would pass before all would be asking, "Why was this not done generations ago?" — *Fernald, in The Popular Science Monthly for September.*

A Disinfectant.

It may not be amiss at the present time, when the public mind is so aroused with the fears of cholera, typhoid, etc., etc., to lay before the people a recipe for making one of the best if not the very best disinfectant known to science, and which can be made by anyone and at a cost so trifling (less than ten cents) that certainly places it within the reach of all. Moreover, this disinfectant is so very unlike many disinfectants, it leaves no offensive odor after its use:—1-4 oz. nitrate of lead, 1-2 oz. rock salt (common salt will do), dissolve the nitrate of lead with two gallons of rain water, dissolve the salt in a quart of rain water and mix both together—the disinfectant is then ready for use. Pour half a gallon down sinks and closets, sprinkle a quart around the corners of cellars and a little, say a teacupful, around bedrooms and under the beds, stables and outhouses according to size. A sponge well saturated and hung in a room will disinfect it in a few minutes.—*Cor. Toronto Globe.*

Prof. Seth's Successor.

The governors of Dalhousie college are to be congratulated upon their choice of a professor to fill the chair made vacant by the resignation of Prof. Seth. They have chosen a young man, who has not only proven himself to be a thorough scholar, but an enthusiastic and successful teacher; and they have not found it necessary to go beyond the limits of Canada for the man of their choice. The day has gone by when Canadians were considered necessarily incompetent to fill the highest teaching positions in their own country.

Prof. Walter Murray, of the University of New

Brunswick, is a Canadian born and bred. He received his early education at the Fredericton high school and while there won the bronze medal and the Douglas silver medal. This was only the beginning of an unusually brilliant career. Entering the University of New Brunswick in 1883, he graduated B.A. in 1886. During his course he won not only the governor general's gold medal for classics and the silver medal for mathematics, but also the alumni prize for a Latin essay and the mathematical scholarship in his senior year. In 1887 he won the famous Gilchrist scholarship, which enables the successful student to study abroad, and among competitors from all over the world ranked third on the honour list. In the same year he went to Edinburgh, where he attained to the degree of M. A. in 1891, with first rank honours in philosophy. Here his course was no less distinguished than it had been at home. Medals in natural philosophy, logic and psychology, moral philosophy and in metaphysics; prizes in mathematics and political economy, and the Newton Bursary attest the solidity of Prof. Murray's parts and his assiduity as a student. Last year he was appointed professor of philosophy in his own university to New Brunswick, and now he comes to fill a similar position in Dalhousie.—*Halifax Chronicle.*

Don't.

Don't say or write Austro-Hungary. The best writers prefer Austria-Hungary.

Don't call the Chinese "Mongolians." It is better to reserve the latter name for the people who live north of China proper.

Don't speak of a native of China as a Chinaman. You would not say that you had an Ireland man digging in your garden. It is best to call John a Chinese.

Don't forget that Oriental names ending in "an" have the accent almost invariably on the last syllable, as Teheran, Beloochistan.

Don't imagine that the spelling of geographical names in the newspapers is necessarily accurate. It is safe to say that one-half of the place names in Africa and Asia, as they appear in our daily press, are mangled almost beyond recognition by the cable or the types.

Don't call Bermuda "a North American Island," as a writer in a newspaper did the other day. There are plenty of North American islands, but Bermuda is not one of them. It is an oceanic, not a continental, island.

"Don't be mystified if on one map in your atlas Hudson Bay seems to be larger than the Gulf of Mexico, while on another sheet of the same atlas the