

[TRIAL CORNER. "Try all, adopt the good."]

PROGRES.

De cōz ov hiūman progres haz bīn de dezair ov man tu imprūv hiz condision, ever maunting az, wið de succēs ov hiz eforts, fresh posibilitez ov imprūvment wer brōt wiðin hiz viū. It iz in ðis respect hr spēsiali dīterz from de brūts. Mecanical evolūsion and selescion bai mur strugl for ekzistens aplai tu man in hiz rūdimenteri stat or in hiz caracter az an animal. Ov hiūmaniti dezair ov imprūvment iz de mōtiv pauer. ðer iz nō nid, ðerfor, ov impōrting de langwej, fast becoming a jargon, ov evolūsion intu aur jenral tritment ov histori. Biz, ants, and biverz ar marvelz ov natyur in ðar wa. But ða sho nō dezair for imprūvment, and mak nō efort tu imprūv. Man alon aspairz. Aspirasion iz wik in lōer resez ov men, strong in de haier. Ov its ekzistens, and ov de difrent degriz in hwich it ekzists, saiens ma bī abl tu giv an acaunt. But it sertnli iz not ði ofspring ov unrizon, nor can it bī aded in eni wa bai siūperstision or bai eni rejecscion ov trūth.—GOLDWIN SMITH in *Guesses at the Riddle of Existence*, p. 32.

BUTNZ, MUNI AND SPELING.

Wī continyu tu war butnz on ðe baks ov aur cōts becōz, it iz sed, at wun taim butnz wer faund convīnient in holding up de sord-belt; sertnli butnz in such a plēs cannot nau bī defended ider bai yūtiliti or bai ði artistic canon ðat wī ma hav "ornamental construcscion" but never "constructed ornament." Wī perzist in yūzing an ôkward complicasion ov wats and mezyurz, insted ov a far mōr convīnient desimal sistem, and wī dū it for de sam rizon ðat ðe British hōld tenasiosli tu ðar įkwoli ôkward muniteri sistem ov paundz, shilingz and pens. Wī defend aur historic orthografi wið ol its absurditiz, and wī rezist wið enerji ivn de slaitest mūvment in de direcsion ov reform. De rizon for ol ðiz enerjetic rezistensez iz de simpl fact ðat in hiūman natyur ðer iz a fundamantal element ðat refiūzez tu bī mūvd tu inovasion bai a simpl preponderens ov rizon, but iz inclaind ever tu insist ðat de last obstacl tu cheuj shal ferst bī remūvd. It woz ðis element hwich Shakspr rediūst tu de wel-nōn aforizm conserning aur reluctens tu abandon ði ilz wī hav.—CHA'S K. ADAMS, prezident ov ði Yūniversiti ov Wisconsin, in *The Forum*, Sept., '96, p. 76.

NOTES ON WORDS.

Impruve, etc.—The selections "Progres" and "Butnz" hav been chosen becaus containing a large number of words with ū. Now, ū and u, tho mates, ar les widely separated in our tung than other pairs. This explains perhaps why difrent peopl vary in pronunciation from ū to u. Even the same individual wil at one time uze u, at another, ū in the very same word. While u and ū, then, may be discriminated when desired, it is believed that the list of words is small wherin use of u for both ū and u wud caus confusion. Such change does not alter word-forms. With those in the selections compare: human, impruv, impruvment, viū, bruts, evolusion, rudimenteri, hiūmaniti, truth, yutiliti, du, yuzing, mūvment, refiūzez, mūvd, remūvd, rediust, Yūniversiti, siūperstision.

With.—Tho wið is the pronunciation in favor with authoritis, yet wip is a good second, and is quite comon when afected by a voiceles consonant. Wip is univērsal in Charleston, S. C., acording to Prof. S. Primer, who (in *Phonetische Studien*, Band i, s. 242) says: "The older voiceles sound [p] of th in *with* prevails here, wið never being herd. In all other cases þ and ð conform to genral uzage thruout the entire lard." His words apear to imply that wip is a survival from a time in which wip prevaild.

-sion.—When i comes before a vowel it remains i if folod by a sylabl with high stres, othewise (that is, when preceded by a sylabl with high stres) i tends to y, and becomes y in colloquial always. The word is thus shortend a sylabl. The foloing vowel, too, becomes æ. Thus, *Christianity* is cristi.æn'i.ti-; *Christian* is crisy^{æn}., colloquial, crisy^{æn}. (strictly, crisy^{æn}). Now, in our language, the ending *sion* or *tion* is always preceded by a sylabl with high stres. *-sion* tends to syon, (strictly, sy^{æn}), or sy^{æn} (strictly, sy^{æn}). This s-y^{æn} is nearer the true sound than s-h^{æn}, and so we see no sufficient reason to change si to sh—but the revers.

KEY:— II—ORTHOGRAFY.
a e æ i i o ô o u ū ū
as in at all ale ill eel nor gnawer no up put do
art err not lawn
DIFTHONGS: au ai oi in in
as in now my boy cure Hugh.
☞ For fuller explanation see the red cover

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