

el, like *ein riven* (say ^a), and thus bat, bot, bet, büt (*bate, boat, beat, boot*) ar pronouned "bæt, bōt, bēt, būt." With more refined, tho stil not correct speakers, the relaxation after a and o is ofn made to and on the respectiv nearly-related close vowels i and u, as in "bæt, bōt;" while the les frequent relaxation after e and ö is to the position of the related coalescents y and w, as in "bēt," and in "būt." Such pronunciations of terminal emfatic long syllabls ar colloquially comon in some, tho not in all localitis; and in London the vulgar ofn atach a somewhat similar excrecence to a and ö, saying "mar, ler," for "ma, le." The riter must himself plead guilty to ocasional extension of a and o, and even of e and ü, in frases like "Ðat wont pæi; Qi jal go; Let me se^y; Ðat wil dū^w;" but he is not conscius of ever having said "A takspæi^{ar}; A churchgo^{ar}; An ov^{er}se^yer; An evil-dū^{ar};" and to him "cæp^{er}, cæ^s, cæ^{etic}" (for cap^{er}, ca^s, cæ^{etic}) or "po^{lar}, po^{et}, po^{etic}" (for polar, poet, poetic), apear intolerabl solecisms. These "vanishing sounds" ar, indeed, so esentially accidental and transitory, that in least studid speech they "vanish" altogether when the voice has a folloing unemfatic syllabl on which to relax itself; and almost evryone wud pronounce with pure long vowels, "Tu pæ a bil; Tu go aley; Tu se a scit; Tu dū an act." It seems, therefore, preposterus, not only to take the normal orthograpy of pæ, go, se, dū, from exceptional, accidental, and corrupt pronunciations, but to intrude exaggerated difthongal representa'n into forms like "neg^oushieish^{en}," [for neg^ofi^ai'n, *negotiation*] in which it is offensiv and indefensibl. Even in words like *obey* and *bestow*, in which the colloquial difthongal sounds may be occasionally herd when the words ar pronounced emfatically at end of sentences, these sounds commence respectivly with a and o, not with e and ö. The symbol "ou" wud, from old asociação, be highly mis-sugestiv for o, as in "a rouig bout, a loud ev outs, a couchman, a poucher." etc.

EITHER AND NEITHER.—*Height* and *sleight* ar the only words in which *ei* has the difthongal sound; [and if *height* wer spelt *hight*, as it shud be, *sleight* alone remains] which, however, is begining to be extensively herd in *either* and *neither*.—Whatev^{er} actual foundation this last may hav in nativ usage of any part of English-speaking peopl, it has spred in recent times far beyond that foundation, by a kind of reasonles and sensles infection, which can only be condemd and o't to be stoutly oposed and put down. I hav no

quarrel with those to whom ai'ðer and nai'ðer ar a genuin part of their dialect, who herd the pronunciation in childhood and grew up to use it unconsciously; but that vastly larger clas who originally said e'ðer and nē'ðer, and hav since gon about deliberately to change it, o't to realize with shame the folly of which they hav been guilty, and to reform.—WHITNEY, in part viii., *O. & L. Studies*.

THINK.—The greater derth of tho't, the greater swarm of opinions. Ther is coming decided conviction that no one has right to opinion who has not studid the subject. Offhand decisions of unstudid questions receiv very litl consideration nowadays in the sciences. He wud be a rare man indeed who cud setl questions. . . . without previus study; while small men who dispose of filosofy and filosofers in one afternoon ar legion. Meanwhile irrelevance, misunderstanding, superficiality ar so aparent that the student is unavoidably reminded of our first parents who wer naked and wer not ashamed.—PROF. BOWNE in preface to *Philosofy of Theism*.

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