

great writers as well as great scholars of the country, and it has done much in the way of influencing public opinion. Branches of this association have been established in different parts of the United States and there are at work many other local propagandist agencies which cannot be described or even specified within the limits of this report. During its existence the American Spelling Reform Association has published its proceedings in occasional bulletins—22 in all—but it is now proposed to issue a regular magazine entitled "Spelling," the first number of which appeared in May of this year, and which is issued to subscribers at the rate of one dollar a year. It is needless to say that it will contain many things about the English language of interest to teachers apart altogether from the question of spelling reform.

From a circular of information on the subject issued by the United States Bureau of Education in 1880, it appears that previous to the date of its issue the changes in spelling proposed by the American Philological Association were formally endorsed by a number of Teachers' Associations in different parts of the United States. The Pennsylvania and New Jersey State Associations unanimously approved of the action of the Philological Association in 1875. In 1877, the New York State Association appointed a committee to ask the Legislature of the State to create a commission to inquire into the reform, and report how far it may be desirable to adopt amended spelling in the public documents and direct its use in the Public Schools. The Ohio State Association in the same year took action in favor of the reform. In 1878 the United States Congress was memorialized to appoint a Commission to examine and report how far such a reform is desirable, and what amendments in orthography, if any, may be wisely introduced into the public documents and the schools of the District of Columbia, and accepted in examinations for the civil service, and whether it is expedient to move the Government of Great Britain to unite in constituting a joint committee to consider such amendments." Among the Memorialists were nearly all the leading philological scholars in the United States, the presidents and professors of many colleges and universities, prominent teachers, and men eminent in other walks of life. The memorial was formally endorsed by the American Institute of Instruction, at which 10,000 teachers were present. In the same year approval of the movement was expressed by the State Associations of Massachusetts, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Missouri, Maryland, and Virginia, not to speak of county institutes, school boards, and other local bodies. In accordance with the project of this memorial a bill was introduced into the House of Representatives, but it has never yet been passed, and no such commission as that contemplated has yet been created.

The state legislatures of Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Massachusetts have had the subject before them, but no