

The Phonetic Herald

DEVOTED TO ORTHOËPI AND ORTHOGRAFI.

1ST YER. PORT HOPE, CANADA, Dec., 1885. N^o 10.

RETROSPECT—1885.

With this number, the HERALD's first year is finisht.

Of our first number, 2300 copis wer printed; of the second, 1500; of several others, 1000; no edition has been les than 600. In all nearly 10 000 copis hav been di tributed to between 7000 and 8000 persons, and red by 12 000 peopl or thereabout, most of whom wer holly ignerant that any practical steps toard a Revised Orthograpy had ever been taken or even seriously proposd. So far, we hav done something to awaken atention, to show that it is begining in earnest, that it is *simpl* and *practicabl*, and not such a revolution as might be or had been suposed. How far we hav succeeded in making favor abl first impresions we no not but trust we hav, amidst much dificulty and discouragement presented truth in shape deserving appreciativ comendation.

The above may be considerd as the *popular* or *misionary* aspect of the case. To it most of our space has been givn. The other aspect is the *filosofic*—the scientific principls which underlie an acceptabl alfabet. Toar is this we hav helpt a litl. In the words of a hard worker in the field, 'we must agree or fail.' While we ar agreeing as to final result, we can push on *popularly* the erlier and acceptabl changes.

We cannot meet for counsel, scaterd as we ar. Some printed vehicl and means of intercommunication seems par amount, especially as the subject is so capabl of and requires printed exemption. If the HERALD is not fulfilling such duty, let it be superseded by a betr—something of the kind ther shud be somewhere. Other journals (all of them in English ar devoted to

shorthand) ar too expensiv to distribute broadcast and most wil be liabl to confound the short characters with Simplified Roman print as something new-fangld and largely utopian. Thankful for help from any quarter, Rectified Speling shud stand alone on its own foundation.

One of the HERALD's objects is, at a trifling expens, to get and keep together those interested in a Revision of Orthograpy. Its price is lower than an Association with like aims cud be man aged. The reason for keeping its size small is that it may be enclozd in lettrs and wil be red becauz short; being so cheap it wil not be felt as a tax, while those who chooz can circuiate it as a tract by subscribing for a number of copis as per scale of terms.

Beside this the HERALD works in the general field of the English language in several of its aspects, holding that our language is too litl understood and that its structure, history, power, beutis development and flexibility shud be betr non and appreciated. It especially holds that an elegant forcibl graceful yet distinct and corect orthoepny shud be promulgated on *sound* (in dubiens) and fixt principls, so as to supersede our present mumbling, mouthing, labial, hat-nasal speech.

It is not yet self-sustaining. Help it to become so by favoring circulation and by contributing ideas so that it shal betr fulfil its end and lead to a jurnal publisht somewhere under betr auspices. It is becaus of inactivity far from 'masterly' in other quarters that we hav felt impeld, after long waiting, to hold the helm.

An interest has been manifested in this work and our circulation helpt to the extent indicated by gentlemen