

erly days. Many New England imigrants of 1760-2 wer of Scottish descent. Chief Scottish imigration began in 1773 when 30 families came to Pictou co., where a few American colonists from Pennsylvania preceded. A stedy tide flowd into eastern Nova Scotia til after 1820 (mainly from ilands and Highlands) chiefly to Pictou, Antigonish and Cape Breton (pictū, antigⁿish, colouqial 'tignish, bret'n). At least 25,000 setd after 1802.

Irish Catholics came later chiefly to the city and county of Halifax.

NEWS-NOTES AND COMENTS.

—*Reform*, our German co-worker, says the poet Klopstock was a zelos advocat of better speling. The first edition of his *Messias* (1780) was in a simplified orthografy.

—The Academy of Brazil adopts some improvements in Portuguese speling that the Academy of Lisbon yet chokes at. New cuntries ar ever more progressiv. They change epocha to epoca, photographia to fotografia, teatro to teatro, vagao to vagao, phisica to fisica, mesa to meza, and casa to caza, for exampl. So far as we no, ther is no conflict between them and us. Or, amendment there and here is in accord.

—Mr Andrew Lang (in *New Collected Rhymes*, Longmans, at p. 44), himself a graduat of Balliol, scores "Oxford Cokny Rimes" as found in the *Oxford Magazine* in 56 lines thus:

"Ah, never was the English tung
So flayd, and rakt, and tortured,
Since one I love (who shud be hung)
Made *tortured* rime to *orchard*.

"Yes, G—y shines the worst of all,
He needs to rime *embargo*;
The man had *Margot* at his call,
He had the good ship *Argo*;
Largo he had; yet doth he seek
Further, and no embargo
Restrains him from the odios, weak,
And Cokny rime *Chicago!*"

—Tawch^{ad} and awch^{ad}, for *tortured, orchard*, was more than this Oxford graduat cud stouac! Let him ad *cargo, Fargo*, and tel us how he likes the comon London pronunciation of *hospital*, namely, *awe!* + *spittle!*

—HERALD receipts for 1907: Wishard \$10; Pontifex \$2.90; Drummond, Halls, each \$2.43; Thornton, Werner, each \$2; Wilcox \$1.25; Lyon, McKay, McGregor, Flynn, Orr, each \$1; Cameron, Blanch, each \$0.50; Blackmer \$0.40; Gardner .30; Curtis, Fally, White, Whitney, Woollen, each .25; Bond .24; Evert .22; Chalmers .10. Total \$31.52.

—Some Negro colloquial appears p. 204. In two places final r before a vowel stays dropt, tho herd in speech of the educated. Uneducated Negros, unconsios of r there, drop it. Fuller and farther observation is requisit.

—Others than Negros do so. J.M. Black of Adelaid, an Englishman representing Australia, does it in *Maille Phonétique*, 1908, p. 82.

—The outlook in France is summarized thus by Prof. Paul Passy, who rites in this speling: "Speling reform, as such, makes litl hed here for the present, owing chiefly to opozition in Government circles. But fonetic riting gains ground stedily from day to day — only as an educational help, ov course, for the present; but whenever it gets to be largely used in that capacity, it wil replace the old speling by a natural process ov substitution. Now that ther is prac-

tically only one alfabet in use, the process goes on pretty quickly. I think men ov our age hav a chance ov seeing the old spelings, if not ded, yet wounded to deth."

—Prof. Page givs account of steps toard simplifying French speling in *Educational Review* for Sept., 1907.

—The best way to keep abreast of development in pronunciation and speling is to send THE HERALD 35 cents a year (\$1 for three years). This wil bring at regular intervals 3 copies (to be uzed as ammunition), 25 c. a year. The 10 c. of difrence wil bring the *Annual of New Sp.*, a complete file year by year.

—Part II (Ojibway-English) of a Dictionary mentioned on p. 147 is out; price 60 cents.

—Close observers think they can stil trace the race characters of the two districts of Old France whence French Canadians came, and distinguish Breton Kelts from more solid and shrewder Normans; but general characteristics prevail. It is denied that the language is a *patois* that a Parisian cud not understand, tho ther ar in it old Breton and Norman words and frases. English words and frases hav intruded also, but these French patriotism now tries to weed out. —GOLDWIN SMITH in *Canada & Can. Quest.*, p. 7.

AN EXPLICIT STATEMENT.

The American Filologic Aso'n's Committee to examin Report of Joint Committee bro't in a Report signd George Hempl, C. P. G. Scott. It appears as an Appendix to vol. 37 of their Transactions for 1906, publisht 1908. It recites what was done by the Asoc'n as to alfabetics from 1874, and then copies the Report to the Mod. Lang. Aso'n noticed on p. 167. The Mod. Lang. men and filologists then agree to amend *Report of J. U.* We need not repeat what was said on p. 167, nor on p. 171 on fundamental vowel-values.

A radical change is involvd in *a*-signs for most speling reformers, especially Americans (not THE HERALD, whose course in this is now endorst). It is wel to giv an explicit statement as to how *a*-symbols ar to be uzed, for "the man in the street" is puzld by multiplicity of reports from 1877 on.

The old sign 'a' uzed in all centuries to now keeps its establish value in *far, bazaar*. In the vowel in *cut* Anglo-Saxon scribes recognized a difrent sound between 'e' (*get*) and 'a'. They uzed æ.

In a considerabl clas of words (as *ask, cast*) pronounced indifrently with æ or a, NED puts 'a', "avowedly ambiguous" as it says, vol. i, p. xiv.

Between æ and a "intermediats" ar comon, not wel enuf fronted for æ, nor bak enuf for a, and some opener than either. Haf-fronted æ is comon in Kébec, parts of U. S.-Canada, midl and northern France, midland England and Scotland. Haf-bak or neutral a is comon in midl or northern England (as Linconshir, Tyne vally), Scotland (as Midlothian, Aberdeen), suthern France, much