



# The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

3<sup>D</sup> YEAR.

TORONTO, CANADA, Feb., 1887.

NR 22.

STRES is the chf determinant in cwentiti. Uther elements ar inflecshun, emfasis, etc. Acnt iz silabl-stres; emfasis iz wurd-stres. Hwot emfasis iz in a sentns, acnt iz in a wurd. Both emfasis and inflecshun belong tu Elocyshun; hwich iz beyönd our provins, Orthoepi. Acnt belongz tu the-lat. Cwentiti variz continyuali in elocyshun, depending on cmoshun ov the spker, the mäning, etc.; cwentiti in orthoepi (a wurd being considerd not az in a sentns, but isolated) iz comparativli yuniförm. Let shap denot cweliti: a sistem ov denöting cwentiti iz neseseri. Stres ov acnt felz on the hol silabl insted ov the vouel alon. The acnt mark wil sho the silabl reserving chf stres, az win'do, ör'tho dox. If stres be so far remuvd that a vouel laks cweliti it iz a fricativ neiz, without vocaliti. Denot this bí 'ə', az doc'tər, bet'ər. Wē ma nēd mēnz tu denot cwentiti with mor acyrasi. Tu du so, put ' after strong stres, put '· after strengter stres, lēv normal stres unmarkt, and subnömäl stres can be shon bí '·', a shertnd förm för '—', mīnus. Az, rec'ard, re-cerd·, cum'pan-i, cum'pan'yun, con-sid'ər ə' shən, rep:yu tə'shun, etc. Com'ən marks on'li ar nēded. Wē comēd ether plan tu favor.

—Our pajez hav furnisht spesimenz in fiv diferent simbolz för difthengal i, nēmlī, ī, î, ai, j, b. Hwich dezervz adopshun? In lik maner, the vouel in 'ooze' haz ben exemplifid with u, ū, u, u, u, and ŷ iz yuzd besīdz. Agen, hwich shud bē chozn?

—Mr L. Lyon, Conneaut, Ohīo, preferz tu yuz sound-simbolz with sern valyuz, ilustrated in:—

"Til, bdi ecsperiens töt, dhi mäind shal lurn  
Dhat, net tu no at larj ov thingz remot  
Fröm yus, obsciur and sutl; but tu no  
Dhat hwich befor us laiz in deli laif,  
Iz dhi präim wizdum."

Miltn.



latr. Stil, as the vowels in unaccented syllabls is a vex and vexing question, the teachings of this master in the sience of speech-sounds shud hav close atention. He has herein givn *his* solution of this vext question. Taking it altogether, we stil prefer to adhere to the three foloing planks in our platform:

1. Take the Roman alfabet as a-basis.
2. Indicate *quality* by shape.
3. Indicate *quantity* by accent mark, etc.

On pages 50 and 51, eight English characteristics ar specified. By these we understand eight differences between English and American usage. A few misprints shud be corrected in next edition.

### MUSIC IN SPEECH.

This was the title of a lecture recently delivered in Richmond Hall, Toronto, by Mr. M. L. Rous. Mr. W. H. Vander-Smissen, M.A., Librarian at University College and tutor in German there, occupied the chair. Mr. R. finds that 8 pairs of vowels and 5 diphthongs represent all the vowel sounds in English, French, German and Italian. He has publisht it in pamphlet form. The pamphlet treats his pairing of vowels only. It was fuly notist in *Herald* for Feb. '86. He considered that the vowels in *keen, age, burn, arm, dawn, note* and *boom* form a descending scale; thus, e, a, u, a, o, o, u. He showd that *th, sh, and zh*, wer formd by blending *t, s* and *z* respectively with aspiration, so that the compounds *th, sh,* and *zh* wer tru, fonologically as well as orthographically. Also ast: d: : th: dh, where *dh* represented the aspirated *d* or the first sound in *theu*. *y* is composed of *dzh*, and *ch* is *tsh*. The continental *r* is our *r* aspirated, and Irish *l* is our *l* aspirated. Irish *l* is herd when a nativ of Ireland uters the words *milk, hill, &c.* He then compar'd the consonants with the varius musical instruments. The analogy is striking in many respects. His analysis of the consonants tends to make the subject more ful, yet tends to simplification. The interested reader wil find a synopsis of his analysis of consonants and analogy with musical instruments givn in the curent Vol., p. 92, of *Proceedings of Canadian Institute*.

The chairman objected to the German word *sold* being pronounst with *o* as in *no*, it had aproximately the same sound as our word *doll* which shud not be pronounst *dawl* like *drawl*, altho difference of vowels in *doll* and *shawl* or *fall* was quantitativ only, and not qualitativ. The German motto *Gott mit uns*, he wud pronounce *Get mit unz*. German *sold* was 'sold,' not 'söld.' [This agrees exactly with doctrin taut in *Herald* for '86, p. 67.] He had observd that *Punch* had recently call'd atention to some of the faults of London pronunciation, especially sounding *tape* like *type*, and *I* like *oi*. He believd "the best" English was not that of

London. To his ear the speech of Prof. Goldwin Smith was model. He speaks Oxford English—not the Oxford of to-day, but that of 25 or 30 years ago. The present Oxford speech has degenerated, altho not to the same degree as Londonese.

Dr. Hamilton agreed with the last speaker. He too had ...ist that *Punch*, who was comonly RIGHT, had turnd its wepns against certan degenerativ changes going on in our language as spoken in Eng. (chiefly about London, altho Sweet says "Suthern England.") The change of cosmopolitan *o* as in *no*, to diphthongal *ow*, objected to by *Punch*, and also its change to *aw* before a dropt *r*, as well as dropping *rs* generally, wer exampls of degeneration. Such speakers pronounst Port Hope as if ritn Pawt Howp. His own studis had been somewhat in the same line as the lecturer's but he cud find but 12 vowels and 3 diphthongs in English. The vowels if arranged as to their natural pitch wud correspond to the sevn white and five blak keys in the octave of an organ. The twelv, in order from high to lo, wer thoz in *eel, ill, ale, ell, at, art, ox, or, up, no, put, do*. Of these, *eel, ale, at, art, or, no, do*, wer represented by the white keys. The rest wer minor vowels, corresponding to blak keys, and wer *ill, ell, ox, up, put*. The order of the scale is e, i, a, e, a, o, o, e, u, o, u, u. Taking major vowels only, we liad e, a, a, a, e, o, u. The Key E corresponds to e.

THE LONDON DIALECT, but mostly in its Cokney aspects, has certain peculiaritits hapily and forciby exemplified in *Punch* for 1st Jan. '87. These peculiaritits ar: 1st, the pronunciation of *a*, as in *ale*, like *i* in *isle*; 2d, *i* in *isle* is mispronounst as tho it wer *oi* in *oil*. *Punch* givs a cut representing a customer conversing with a shopman across the latr's counter. It is heded "Poor Letr A." "Do you sell Type?"—"Type, sir? No, sir, this is an ironmonger's. You'll find Type at the Linendryper's over the w'y." "I don't mean Tape, man; Type, for printing." "Oh, Toype, yer mean. I beg your pardon, sir. You'll find Toype at the Toype-founder's."

— How great then must be the difculty for a beginner in reading! For, with him, taking in the tho't thru word-recognition must be the predominant proces; while the aim of giving out the tho't is but feebly present in his proces of taking in the tho't? He has to connect (in the alfabet method) the form of the lettr with its name, *its name with its proper sound*, the printed word with the spoken word, the spoken word with the idea, the idea with other ideas similarly aquired. Is it any wonder that these complex relations tax his mental capabilitis to the utmost, and leav but litl power for the reproduction of tho't so laboriously aquired?—  
DR. McLELLAN in *Canada Educational Monthly*.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## COMPARISON OF SCHEMES.

Is it not posibl to hav a comparison of schemes of Amended Speling on the foloing plan : Select a pasage suitabl in length and otherwise as a test. Let each author submit the pasage spelt in acordans with his own scheme, all to be printed side by side, each author to bear his own share of expens.

The Eng. S. R. A. has adopted a number of general principls in acordans with which New Speling shud be constructed. In substance they wer . A symbol for evry sound, the New Sp. to be easy to Print. Teach, Rite and Read by present Readers. These conditions wer paramount. Other considerations wer relegated to a subordinat position. Among the latr may be mentiond : Analogis of Foren l.anguages, similar sounds to hav similar shape, difthongs to be represented by their elements, &c., &c.

Nobody objects to new lettrs on principl, but evrybody feels the practical difficultis encounterd in their introduction. Ther is but one printing office in Eng, where new lettrs can be had, and the variety of fonts is limited. If I wish to illustrate Sp. by Sound in a newspaper it canot be done with new lettrs. An articl with present lettrs can be sent across the Atlântic and printed with accuracy in type of any size.

My good frend, Mr. Knudsen, of S. Norwalk, Conn., is so earnest, so able, and so persevering that I wud be glad to come to nearer acord with him. A great obstacl wud be removed if we got rid of the idea that similar vowel sounds shud hav symbols of similar shape, as we have got rid of that idea as regards consonants. *Ch* and *j* represent sounds which pair ; but where is the resemblance in shape ?

E. JONES.

Liverpool, Eng.

[The *Furnal of Amer. Orthocpy*, publisht monthly at Ringos, N.J., \$1 a year, wil iustrate schemes during the year, under Mr. Jones' supervision. Those interested shud subscribe.—Ed.]

## VOWEL PAIRS.

SIR,—In yur last, yu say that “two vowels ar exact pairs when they differ in quantity only, and not in quality,” and that in this sens ther ar no exact pairs. I maintain that several vowels do pair so nearly at least that a comon ear canot detect the slightest difference except in quantity. If vowels differ in quantity only, a prolongation of the short vowel produces the corresponding long. Yu admit that this is *almost* (I say *holly*) the case with *ell* and *ale* and also with the vowels in *foot* and *food*. Yu surely do not ask us to believ it is the same with *ill* and *eel*, or with

those in *not* and *father*, altho yu contrive to pair these vowels in some way to me unintelligibl. The relationship appears to me perfect in *odd* and *awed* ; also in the vowels in *at* and *father*.

JOHN WATSON.

Catonsville, Md.

[Quantity has nothing to do with vowels pairing. They pair aproximatly, not exactly, and betr the les they differ in quality. In quality, the twelv vowels ar as distinct to our ear as twelv men in a jury box ar to our eye—tho related to one another, stil individualized. The first v. in *fodder* aproximates that in *father* more closely than that in *former*, and makes the closest pair of all. Arranging them in order of proximity, they ar 1. *fodder* and *father* ; 2. *full* and *fool* ; 3. *fill* and *feel* ; 4. *fell* and *fail*. The other vowels do not aproximate near enuf to deserv to be paird, Who wud claim *note* and *nut* as a good pair ? Manifestly, Mr. W. does not pronounce *odd* and *father* as we do. With this we leav it to our readers.—Ed.]

## VOWEL PAIRS—DIFTHONGS.

SIR,—I tho't it understood by evrybody that aranging the twelv vowel scale in six pairs was not strictly tru, but a stenografic convenience. The six short vowels ar certainly not always mates for the six long—not of the same quality.

As to difthongs, I wud, for sake of peace and unity, provide singl signs for those who canot determin the [so-calld] elements of difthongs. Then evry man cud spel acording to his convictions. Yu wud rite *haus*, and I, *haus* (house.) Pitman wud spel his name *Eizak* ; I wud spel it *Aizak*.

J. H. KIDDER.

Owego, N. Y.

## AN ENLARGED ALFABET.

SIR,—I believ that a jurnal advocating an enlarged alfabet, and doing its best to get a good one cud be *sustaind in time*. Half-way alfabets wil never succeed, and never o't to succeed. Twelv vowels, four glide vowels and twenty-six consonants wil make a good alfabet, leaving out shade vowels as holly unnecessary. Use the same vowel sign in *fame* and *fare* ; use e in *let* and *earth*,

JOEL MYERS.

Oberlin, Ohio.

—Dr. W. Vietor, Prof. of English Filology in University of Marburg, Prussia, rote us that he wud start in April a new periodical devoted to Phonetics, or the Science of Speech-sounds. Ther wil be three or four parts issud yearly. The parts wil hav 70 or 80 pages each. We hav received the second edition (1887) of his *Elemente der Phonetik* and shal notice it shortly.