

The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

4TH YEAR.

TORONTO, CANADA, Sept., 1888.

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PRONUNCIATION.

(Continued from page 141.)

In every attempt to indicate actual Pronunciation it is necessary to have some sign to denote what has been variously named the neutral, dul, or obscure vowel. What sign shall be chosen is matter of some, but not paramount, importance. For this, a turned e (e) is much used. Some, as Pitman and Sayce, use the same sign for it, whatever that sign may be, as for vowel in *all*; the later goes so far (see p. 123) as to use it for that in *up* also—with neither of which practices do we agree. After full consideration, we choose tailed e (e) mainly because the sound is represented so often by e in Orthography. The sign e belongs to Orthography alone, not to Orthography.

Archives	ark'ivz
cuneiform	kyū ne'i form
posthumous	post'hyū mus
credulity	cre dyū'li ti
credulous	cred'yū lus
Parnell	Par'nel or Parnel

It accords with British usage to accent the first syllable of the Irish leader's name: in America, Par nel' prevails. A like shifting of accent occurs with other names, as Waddel, Gravel, etc. Tho' our language favors accenting first syllable, yet it is less so in America than elsewhere. Stress is very strong with many natives of England, and, especially when conjoined with emphasis, may be termed explosiv. We have not observed this with natives of Ireland, Scotland, or Wales.

(To be continued.)

NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

A. F. Chamberlain, B. A., Toronto, (got by Mr. Squair.)

Miss Christine Johnston, teacher, Clifton Springs, N. Y., (got by A. J. Pierce.)

Prof. B. F. Hood, principal Union School, Aberdeen, Dakota. (Pierce.)

Prof. C. J. C. McLeod, Supr' Brown Co. Schools, Warner, Dakota. (Pierce.)

C. E. Carey, Conneaut, Ohio. (Lyon.)

☞ These pages have a missionary object. Your influence to extend circulation is solicited.

RUNIC LETTERS.

The name *Runic* was called so from Rūn, used by Teutons to designate mystery of riting, believing runes possess magic influence, as stopping a vessel in her course, divert an arrow, cause love or hatred, raise the corpse from its grave, or cast the living into death-slumbers. On account of idolatrous veneration with which paganism invested these runes, early preachers and missionaries endeavored to introduce Roman characters in stead. Doutles from this, Ulfilas [4th c.] refrained from riting his version of Scriptures in runes employed by Gothic nations and adopted a modification of Greek and Latin alphabets. After conversion, Anglo-Saxons adopted the later. They were obliged to retain two runes as they were no corresponding Roman characters: the old Thorn Þ, for which Latin expression was *th*, and Wen ƿ. After Norman Conquest, ƿ was superseded by double u [w], but Þ had more prolonged career. This and a modified Roman letter, Ðð, divided *th* sounds between them, the former representing *th* in *thing*, the later as in *thine*. During Saxon period these were used without distinction, or very ill-observed discrimination: ultimately, both were banished by general adoption of *th*. This change was not completely established till the very close of 15th cent. [Ðð disappeared about 1250; Þ alone was in use till 1500. In 1115 the Council of Toledo forbade the use of runes because employed in magic.] *The* and *that* continued to be ritten Þe [or Þe = ƿ] and Þat or Þt. This habit lasted long after its original meaning was forgot. Þ got confused with *y* at a time when *y* was closed a-top*, and then people wrote 'ye' for *the* and 'yat' or 'yt' for *that*. This has continued almost to our times; and it may be doubted whether the practice has entirely ceased even now.—ROEMER, in *Origin of English*, page 136.

*[In the following sample line, called Old English by printers, observe *ys*.—EDITOR.]

Do Your Duty, my Boy.

KEY: a a a e i i o o u u ū
az in art at ale ell cel it I or ox no up put ooze

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SHAKSPERE'S ORTHOGRAFY.

"It may be safely aserted, without fear of the riter being acused of exagera'n, that the First Folio Edition of Shaksper is the most interesting and valuabl book in the hole range of English literature." So starts the preface of a book before us: "The Works of William Shaksper in reduced fac simil from the famus First Folio edition of 1623." It is publisht by Funk and Wagnals (20 Astor Place, N. Y., 1887). At Shaksper's deth in 1616, his plays wer not publisht colectivly; some, indeed, wer not in print at all; others had texts that had been tamperd with. Ben Jonson, a personal frend of Shaksper, and with him on his last drinking bout, colected his works and publisht them in 1623. A copy of that edition brings a fabulus price according to condition. A good copy may be put down as worth \$4000. Its uses for critical examina'n by those interested in history of our language ar very great and so justifies the first sentence above. Several fac simil editions hav already apeard. These, tho, ar quite expensiv. The present one is publisht at a price (\$2.50) so remarkably lo as to bring it within reach of all. Tru, the type is rather small. This is no great objec'n as it wil be used for reference insted of reading. The reader is aware that our modern editions hav modernized texts, ofn diferent from original and worthles as basis of criticism. We giv a very imperfect imitation of lines facing title page on which is a cut of S. They ar signd "B. I." (Ben Jonson). They giv a picture of orthograpy 2½ centuris ago. The reader wil notice (1) the long ss, (2) copesiv use of silent e, (3) u for v, (4) vv for w, (5) many nouns begin with capitals as in modern German, (6) i for j.

This Figure, that thou here seest put,

It was for gentle Shakespeare cut:

VVherein the Grauer had a strife

vwith Nature, to out-doo the life:

O, could he but haue dravvne his vvit

As vvell in brasse, as he hath hit

His face, the Print vvould then sur-
passe

All, that vvvas euer vvrit in brasse.

But, since he cannot, Reader, looke

Not on his Picture, but his Booke.

B. I.

S's orthog. was ofn beter than ours, as winites:

begger,	biskets,	tel,	pedler,	perswade.
beggar,	biscuits,	tell,	peddler,	persuade.
symbols,	dram,		brast,	hart.
symbols,	drachm,		breast,	heart.

Honor, labor, etc., ar spelt sometimes with *or*, sometimes *our*.

On the contrary, modern speling is beter than S's in some respects, as:

vp, Ioues, Iewell, clarke, clarks, ioy.
up, Jove's jewel, clerk, clerk's joy.
winne, heyre, magicke, Pigge, pitty, gue.
win, heir, magic, pig, pity give.

The volume shud be got by evry scolar and shud receiv careful study. Apart from its uses to the orthografer it has of late been bro't into great prominence since Donnelly h's gon rampant on the Bacon-Shaksper controversy. Altogether it is the most importa: volume of the year.

BRITISH-AMERICAN SPEECH.

Western's *Englis. he Lautlehre* (Henninger Bro's, Heilbronn,) is a ful careful and systematic presenta'n of Eng. fonetics based on Sweet, Storm, Viotor and the author's own study under Sweet's personal supervision. It shud, therefore, represent present pronuncia'n of Eng. in England, but if so, this does not coincide with best pron. in America. I hav heretofore taken excep'n to Sweet's pron. and must renew my criticism in his pupil's case. Western adopts Bell-Sweet vowel system with additions, and classifies consonants according to posi'n of tung and lips. R is disregarded even where r is distinctly preservd in best American pron. So too in neglect of initial h in *what* = *wot*, and the same in *which*, *whether*, etc., so that cokenyism is now publisht to continental nations as best Eng. pron.
.... *More* and *morning* hav the same vowel-sound; *tore*, *pour*, *soar*, *door*, *floor* ar pronounced with vowel of *all*, so that o no longer exists before r, and in *no*, *ago*, *store*, etc., is represented by *ou*; certnly many Americans pronounce *no* without this u-prolonga'n. The sound of y in *pity* is givn to first syllabls of *expect*, *exhibit*, *exampl*, *examine*, like i in *agine*.
If this is correct Eng. pron., it is redily seen how far English hav departed from older pronuncia'n of the language which has been preservd more purely on this side of the water, and it wil soon be hard to say whether a givn pronuncia'n is "good English" or not. What hope is ther for ever ataining reformd sp. on fonetic lines if the same words must be speld diferent ways for Englishmen and for Americans.—Prof. J. M. GARNET in *Amer. Four. Philology*. (1886, p. 388.) The book [Western's] is a detaild and consientius study of the Eng. sound-system, very exhaustiv and correct so far as London dialect is concernd. We wish another standard had bin chosen.—Prof. PASSY in *Paris Teacher*.

—Why has Carleton Co., Ont., silent e in it, when Carlton St., Toronto, has none?

ELLIS ON PRONUNCIATION.

Early Eng. Pronunciation is the title of a work in four parts or volumes rittn by A. J. Ellis and publisht at intervals from 1869 to 1874. It deals with our orthoepy at all stages up to the present. The fifth part is now under way and will be publisht as *Existing Phonology of Eng. Dialects*. It includes the Scotch dialects. An abridgment will be publisht simultaneously by the Eng. Dialect Society with title: *Eng. Dialects — their Sounds and Homes*. These five parts of E. E. Pr. may be considered the result of nearly 30 years' work by Mr. Ellis (in which he has sifted loads of old and recent material bearing on pron.) His results will be valuabl in considering the yet unsolv'd problem of what pronuncia'n is to be consider'd standard. With appearance of fifth part, the British side of the case may be consider'd herd. American aspects of speech hav to be compar'd with these. It will be a question as to whether varia'ns of sound herd in cisatlantic speech hav develop't here by non (or to be non) laws of speech-change or wer they import'd in the speech of British imigrants. Comparing cisatlantic with transatlantic speech we hope to see develop't a standard British-American language, which will then (in beter orthographic dres, put in a valid and reasonabl claim to become in effect a world-language Ellis, in reporting progress of his work to Filologic Soc. on 6th May, 1887, said, "It wil doubtles be reserv'd to some future filologist, possibly of German extract'n, [a high compliment — yet can't anybody but a German do good work?] to exploit my materials properly. But I consider the main value of my investiga'ns not to be specially English, but generally filological, as respects related forms of words. We hav hitherto had to treat these as relations of groups of letters rather than groups of sounds. I here present for the first time in uniform orthography, carefully prepared, elaborated and explain'd, the pronuncia'n of one language in its varius forms from Land's End to the Shetlands, and offerin' sufficiently striking contrasts, deriving informa'n, not from books of ded authors imposibl to verify or explain by immediat intercour's, but from living men and women who either themselfs speak the dialect, or hav had long and constant intercour's with natural speakers, and who wer not only capabl of being interview'd, but hav actually been frequently interview'd or examin'd on paper in cours of long correspondence til something aproaching certnty had been evolv'd. The numerus illustra'ns therefore which I present ar a fund of future filologic investiga'n, and I shal spare no pains in giving them correctly to the linguist as I hav spar'd no pains or labor or time in collectin' them from numerus obligin' informants."

—Cluf is how they pronounce Clough.

—Why is Brooklyn, N. Y., spelt with a y, while Brooklin, Ont., has i?

—Dougherty has, in several instances he cud give, been sensibly improved by leavin' out ug, giving "Doherty."

—Bill Nye says, "We hav peopl enuf who no how to reform the world, but those willing to take of their coats an I attend to it personally, ar absent without leav'."

—At a banquet at Pictou, N. S., on occasion of openin' a railway, Principal McKay, of Pictou Academy, a leading scientist, and president of N. S. Sumer Scol of Science, said: "I want to see a railway thru our spelling system, a system not based on philosophy, lernin' or anything els; a railway thru our weights and mesures; and a railway thru our riting, which was five times longer than need be."

—*A Study of Child Language* is the title of a paper by Alvarez, of Seville, Spain, in *Trans. Phil. Soc.* for 1885. It discusses certn speech-phenomena observ'd by the author in his own children during infancy as their imita'n of vowels and consonants which they had not yet lern'd to enunciate. Until a new sound is lern'd, the child appears to substitute another sound more readily made by it. From such a standpoint, "baby-talk" is interesting.

—The stupid practice prevails of making children memorize and rite lists of words instead of consecutiv sentences. The book that has largest circula'n in this cuntry, Webster's Sp.-book, is the stupidest and most meaningless book. This practice of drummin' singl words, leter by leter, into heids of children, afords no assistance whatever in acquirin' power of expression; it is mere parot-like lernin', unconnected with tho'ts. Ther is no surer way to make a simpton of a boy than to drill him for a spelling-match, the lafin' stoc of foreners and favorit exercise of nativs.—ROBERT WATERS, in *May N. A. Review*.

—Bishop Taylor is wel non all over. Of late he has been bro't into prominence by leadin' in havin' establish't self-supportin' missions in Africa of which he is hed and resident manager. When in America in 1884, he had print'd in Cincinnati a fonetic edition of New Testament. Bein' again here this sumer we took trubl to find out what use had been made of edition. The use as yet has been very limited becaus in his field, Loanda, Portuguese is the prevalent European tung. The nativ iern Portuguese by commercial intercour's chiefly and it is thru the gate of Portuguese that the nativ has to be reacht. Of the 477 languages counted in Africa but few hav been rittn or print'd. We gain'd this informa'n from himself on meetin' him at Niagara Falls in August.

JUDGMENT.—In the Revized Version (as in Ex. xii. 12, Rev. xx. 4) the revizers hav inserted silent e in judg(e)ment. Omission of e has been long and wel establisht. It is a law term of frequent occurrence, and lawyers object to this unnecessary silent leter. In many words a silent e is retaind after g to sho that g must hav its soft, or j, sound insted of its hard one. The word stage is a good exampl, which without e is stag. When d precedes g, the e is useles as dg is always sounded j. The action of the revizers in this appears stupid and retrograde.

NOVA SCOTIA.—The litl province of Nova Scotia givs a good exampl in this respect. In examina'ns for licenses to teach, the Superintendent of Educa'n wil accept spelling as amended by the linguists' 24 Rules. The *Dalhousie Gazet* wel says: "This is an exampl wel worthy imitation by all who hav it in their power, by obstinat conservatism and indifference to needed reform to present efectual oposition to it, but who can also, if wiling to interest themselvs, and make slight efort required to master plans presented for reform, giv it substantial assistance by removing the cheks to all change, which now exist. We hartly recomend the exampl of the Superintendent of Education to consideration of others in his position, c. colege authoritis, and other leaders in educational maters."

OBITU.—Mr Charles Dübler, a constant and firm frend to amendment in sp. died at Port Hope, Ont., on Aug. 7th, aged 60. A nativ of great book-making Leipsic, he had a lively sens of the stupid irregularitis of Eng., especially when contrasted with comparativ regularity found in German. In erly life he had taken part in political agitation in Berlin, looking to geting a constitutional government for Prussia, "ow in a mesure secured by a united Germany governd by its reichstrats or parliaments. His sens of the ridiculus was keen as his fund of informa'n was broad. He was amazed that habit cud so blind any one that he shud stil prefer the longest and most crooked way in orthograpy when a shorter and simpler way was pointed out. He had been an objecter for years to what he was daily compeld to undergo from Eng. orthograpy.

DROPT R.—Prof. Passy, temporarily at Abbotsbury, Dorsetshire, rites: "It is stated that dropping r before consonants is universal in outh of Eng. I can say, at any rate, it is far from universal in Dorset. Here r is pronounced generally with tung-point turnd strongly up, and, I think, with raising of bak of tung. In such words as *word, mercy, hard, far, more*, it is largely incorporated with the vowel, that is, the vowel is pronounst with tung turnd up as for r. (Com-

pare Kentish pronuncia'n of *sparrow* Sweet's Handbook.) Close o and open o kept quite distinct before r and ther's no confusing *mourning* and *morning*, *source* and *sauce*, as in London. They call this peculiar wa. of sounding r *whirring*, and say it's stil more markt in Somerset. If r is no dropt in Dorset, h, on the other hand, seem to hav completely disapeard, and without leaving any trace."

CORRESPONDENCE.

"A LION IN THE WAY."

STR,—I see that yu help to bring about Amended Sp. I favor it in some respects. But what ar we to do? If I rite a business leter for my employer in such sp., what wud the recipient think? It is not bro't before the public enuf. The daily papers shud take it up.

Orangeville, Ont.

J. W. CONNOR.

[Where yu hav not control of orthograpy, yu canot go beyond what may be calld Advanced Orthograpy: using the simpler form of such words as ar speld in two or more ways. Worcester givs a list of 1800 such words, but the list is much larger. Exampls: *mold, molder, program, rime, honor* and its clas, *traveler* and its clas, *plor, wagon, defense, tho, offense, practise* (verb, including its participls *practising* and *practised*), *civilization*, and so on thru avery long list. It wud be wel worth while to hav such a list made out, so that it cud be adopted by those who accept Advanced Sp. Be very careful to avoid such misspelling as is in rong direction. Thus ther shud be two ss in *supersede*, and but one c in *license*. If yu wish to go farther than this, first get permission of yur employer. If that is not to be had yu can go a reasonabl distance in what yu hav under yur own control by having "Amended Spelling" ritn, beter printed, on note-paper and post cards which wil at once explain and excuse. Yu can use the Five Rules givn and exemplified by us in May. If that be not enuf, then hav our "Rules" printed and use them. Don't go beyond them in riting to the unconverted. If yu do, yu but cause reaction and do irreparable harm. Tho e who "go too far" do injury, which: those of moderat views hav "to liv down." *FESTINALENTE* is a good adage.—ED.]

*REVISED SPELLING: OMIT useles letters. CHANGE d to t, ph to f, gh to f, if sounded so.

ANYTHING TO BRING HIM,

"How is this?" enquired the local practitioner; "yu sent a leter that yu had small-pox and I find reumatism." "Wel, doctor, it's like this," said the patient, "not a soul in the hous cud spel reumatism."—*Bangor Commercial*.