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The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

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COSMOPOLITAN SPEECH.

An important problem is to determine limitations for "Cosmopolitan Speech" or "Standard English" as it is commonly called. Had we to start from the beginning, the outlook might be appalling. Fortunately this has not to be done. From the publication of Sheridan's pronouncing dictionary, 1780, through Walker's, 1791, to the full blaze of phonetic and philologic research now prevalent we have an embarrassment of wealth, to harmonize which is the main difficulty: being the "third reading" of our bill. The poet Cowper tells us of

"Learned philologists who chase
A panting syllable through time and space,
Start it at home, and hunt it in the dark,
To Gaul, to Greece, and into Noah's ark."

In Cowper's day, and even as late as in Noah Webster's, this "hunt in the dark" was productive of "wild guesses and etymologies of a prescientific age" (Sayce). Our time yields better fruit.

In grappling with the problem, Professor Mahaffy (in *Nineteenth Century*, Nov., '96, p. 787) has stated what should make a deep impression on every thoughtful worker:—

"No remedy can be proposed with any chance of hearing if the author shows himself ignorant of previous solutions. The most obvious conditions of success in so difficult a problem is to know what others have said; and if they have failed, to understand the causes of such failure."

It has been said that the "best English" is spoken in Dublin, which is only true as that the "best German" is spoken in Hanover, with this difference in favor of Dublin that it has speech produced by *fusion* of several dialects—a resultant average. Thirteen years ago, Professor Viator (pronounced, formerly) examined this (in his *German Pronunciation*, Heilbronn, 1885):—

"a forener . . . has a right to inquire where the 'best German' is spoken. English students of German, and English people in general, have put this question over and over again to the Germans they had nearest at hand, viz., the Hanoverians, and, naturally enough, they have just as many times been told that the best German is spoken in Hanover. What could they do but believe it? Yet it is a fact worth noting that in Germany this belief is held only by the Hanoverians themselves."

Instead of that of a locality, he favors average speech: for we are told that

"A Hanoverian, who should carefully avoid everything peculiarly Hanoverian in his speech, would

be as good a model as any other. As a rule I would call him the best speaker who most effectually baffles all efforts to discover from what town or district he comes."

He concludes in favor of the Stage:—

"We must have a spoken language which, like the right language of Luther, shall be superior to all dialects. We want something analogous to his 'Saxon Chancery.' This we find in the language used on the German Stage, in which, although the same tendency to provincialism has always existed as in private life, the process of softening down and assimilating the different local modes of pronunciation has naturally been far more rapid. An actor whose Saxon pronunciation might appear quite the proper thing to an exclusively native public (which, of course, he would not have) at Dresden, would shock his hearers by speaking his part with the same pronunciation in Berlin or Vienna. Besides, any audience would be struck with the ludicrousness of a performance, say of Goethe's *Iphigenie*, with an *Iphigenia* from Pomerania, an *Orestes* from Friesland, a *Pylades* from the Tyrol, and so on.—On the stage, then, we have the best German in practical use."

If for Goethe's *Iphigenie* we substitute Shakspeare's *Hamlet*, the point strikes at home. Imagine an Irish Hamlet, Yankee Polonius, Scottish Horatio, Cockney Ophelia, and so on! The audience would be in a mood for farce-comedy instead of tragedy! Viator very well adds:—

"There are certainly even there moot points, which admit, even demand, philologic interposition; but so far as it is settled, the language of the theater must be taken as standard."

About ten years ago, Prof. March gave us (in *Trans. Amer. Phil. Assoc'n*, 1888) his excellent, masterly paper on "Standard English," which deserves reproduction in more accessible form. Our space forbids.

Within a few years Dr Lloyd of Liverpool has ridden much with good judgment on this and allied subjects. His views on "Cosmopolitan English" are in *THE HERALD* for July, 1897, page 3. We hope to give digests of the work which March and Lloyd have contributed, so as to summarize and harmonize results. "Summarize and harmonize" should be the spirit of our future work.

CH AND J.

That *ch* in *chop* and *j* in *job* are compounded and not simple speech-elements is not always admitted, though both weight and number of authorities among foneticians consider them compounded of *tʃ* and *dʒ*

respectively. Some years ago ther was a communication from Prof. A. M. Bell in *The Journal of Orthoepy and Orthografy* (Ringos, N. J., 20 pages 8vo monthly, \$1 a y'r) explaining their constituent elements. He faild to convince its editer. In the same jurnal for October three contributors (Mott, Collins, Lyon) hav all asumed that ch and j ar elements. Readers stil in the dark but open to conviction may ponder this with prospect of light:—

In *cash*, cæf, insert t between æ and f, and we hav cætf, *catch*, and nothing els. So, inserting t after the vowel changes *dish* to *ditch*, *lash* to *latch*, *mash* to *match*, etc. Again, omit *ure* from *pleasure*, leaving plej; insert d after e, giving pledj, *pledge*; got, too, by inserting j after *pled*. That j is compounded of d and j is tacitly admited by two prevalent spelings of one name: *Rogers*, *Rodgers*; as that ch is compound by *Acheson*, *Atcheson*. Try saying *chop* without tuching the tung-tip to the gums and *shop* is said. So, *chin* becomes *shin*; *choose* or *chews*, *shoes*; *cheap*, *sheep*. The illiterat who misspels (?) *pigeon* with d, or *much* with t, is led right fonetically by his ear.

The ch and j ar dubl in orthoepy, we believ that in orthografy it is beter to treat them as we do.

☞ Readers who wish fuler explanation of our notation and principls or platform wil find it on the red cover, *one* only of which is sent with evry paket maild. The Platform is yet imperfect. The part now sent has resulted from much correspondence, cogitation, sugestion. Readers who hav their "thinking cap" on ar invited to contribute or sugest other well-considerd "planks" to be aded later.

AT WORK.—Mr A. J. Pierce rites from Grand Forks, Dakota:—

"On the 23th the State Teachers' Asociation is to meet here. As uzual, ther is nothing on the program about the crying need of the time-beter speling. I take it on myself to do misionary work, and want to deluge them with the sensibl idea. Can yu help me with latest mater? What angers me is indifrence of leading educaters in conventions, sumer scools, etc. I mean to shake 'em up."

We hav sent a sufficient suply of THE HERALD for distribution. It is a leaflet for that purpos, and is about as much as an average inteligence wil take as a dose. Being a serial, it is always fresh. More workers and subscribers ar needed.

SIGNS OF PROGRES.—A new edition of the *Manual of Phonografy* (by Benn Pitman and J. B. Howard, Cincinnati, Ohio, 200 12mo pages, cloth, \$1, 355th thousand) has a number of amended spelings, as *practise* (noun and verb). Truly

"The Manual is clean and neat. It teaches, not filology, nor yet fonetics, but fonografy, shorthand, pure and simpl. On the left-hand page is clear statement, on the right-hand page is apt illustration; both ar at once under the eye, and comparison is easy; the mind grasps the hole doctrin at a singl view. Concisenes and comprehensivnes carac erize the style."

All this we endors, and ad that the *Manual* is a lucid exponent. We endors, too, its own statement, §37, that

"The practis of noting the deliberat utterance of a word, as distinct from its uzual [or slurd colloquial] sound, wil tend to giv acuracy and finish to the student's own pronunciation."

NEWSPAPER PRONUNCIATION.—Recently a swindler named Macdonald came to Ottawa from Washington, as he aserted. He so't facsimiles of signatures for fraudulent purposes. The *Toronto Globe* of 14th January containd this:—

"Finally, Mr Ogilvie fixt a severe gaze on Macdonald and askt him about Alaska and the Yukon, where Macdonald said he had been for six years. Macdonald pronounced Indian names of rivers and places so that Mr O. considerd he had obtand his information from newspapers, and pronounced them as wud any ordinary newspaper reader."

This exposed him. It also exposes the retchednes of newspaper pronunciation. It emfazizes and illustrates what we hav contended for long: a simpl notation for orthoepy, such as cud be printed by any printer, shud be authorized by educaters to be taut and uzed in scools. This wud then be a perennial spring corecting this retched mal-pronunciation.

C O R E S P O N D E N C E .

ALFABETIC NOTES — LINDSLEY.

SIR: I hav always asociated e in *err*, ea in *earn*, u in *up*. That was our Yankee pronunciation. It may be rong to others.

Is it worth while to distinguish iu in *purity* and iū in *few*? O't we not rather to seek simplicity for popular use? Leav to elocutionists the ataching of litl frils.

K is wel establisht and invariabl. For its uzual sound, it seems beter than c. C is so variabl.

Ther shud be two leters to represent spoken and whisperd th in *this*, *thin*, as much as in bp, gk, dt, etc., which pairs I take to be not separat sounds but variations of the same, difering only with force of utterance. H is morely forcibl expulsion of *breth* requiring no movement of vocal organs; hence, not a consonant, but more like a vowel—a mute vowel, if ther be such.

Of cours, I wud like to hav separat leters for sh in *shall*, s in *vision*, ng in *sing*, so as to make a complete alfabet, if new leters ar to be bro't in; also, such arrangement of leters as wud aly in mind and bring out fonetic relationship, such as bp, gk, dt, vf, fj, zs, etc. The presit arrange-

NEW SPELLING

ment is a disorderly jumble, confusing and misleading, and should be changed.

Your kind notice of Mr LINDSLEY in July was the most complete, yet succinct, that I have seen. He was pastor of a congregation at Mendon, Mass., not Conn. The work he did was foundation work, and as such, I believe, will endure.

Chicago.

D. KIMBALL.

[It is generally conceded that b, d, g, v, ð, z, j, w, y, q are different from p, t, k, f, þ, s, l, m, ð, x, respectively, only in their having voiced breath; that is, breath with vibration of vocal cords; the latter having simple breath alone, with cords quiescent. The quotation from WHITNEY in HERALD, vol. i, p. 189, gives fuller explanation. An attempt to restore in part alphabetic simplicity and symmetry is that voiceless p, l, m, ð are but inverted b, j, w, y. . . . ū and ô would be used in school-books and other accurate work, not in ordinary books or newspapers. Simple omission is easy, using u and o instead, word-forms otherwise being unchanged. . . . In either is breath without voice, a rustling friction-murmur, chest-walls contracting as a closing below.—ED.]

ORTHOEPY SEPARATE FROM ORTHOGRAPHY.

SIR: By accident, *The Annual of New Spelling* was picked up here. I am delighted with its moderation, its tone, and its platform. THE HERALD is wise to separate orthoepy and orthography. This and fixity of spelling are two great steps ahead—"rub them in" well. Hitherto, trying to make orthography reach the ever-varying limits of orthoepy or phonetics has been for us a stumbling-block, or rather mountain, an impassable barrier, a cause of slow progress, almost failure. Insist that orthography shall try to give only a close approximation, a guide, to such broad, cosmopolitan speech as we should aim at. Murray has well said:—

"Spelling will always lag a certain way behind actual speech, especially the careless, lawless speech of familiar conversation. In my opinion, therefore, it is futile to aim at representing this in practical spelling; let us aim at providing a means of spelling what men MEAN to say, AIM at saying, and in measured or formal speech or song DO say, not at the shortcomings which, though inseparable from speech, are none the less unintentional, and to be discouraged."

Again, I am glad that you can appeal to authority as high as Dr Murray against basing words on familiar conversation—it is easy to slip downhill; better, though not so easy, to keep to the mark. Murray's words deserve emphasis when he speaks of

"writing sounds which educated men aim at producing, not what men in a hurry actually succeed in producing! If the reader aims at the former, he may be trusted always to reach the latter; if he aims only at the latter, he will soon fall short even of them, and want still newer spelling for his still more defective utterance."

Clearly, slipshod, go-as-you-please conver-

sation is a sandy foundation. The result "must be not merely conventional, but even to some extent inconsistently conventional."

I shall watch THE HERALD's progress with great interest.

Niles, Mich.

N. E. ALLEN.

NEWS-NOTES AND COMMENTS.

—Rev. E. Barker, 4 Simpson Av., Toronto, receives and forwards subscriptions to the Pitman Memorial. In September, at London, memorial meetings were held for two or three days.

—Venerable Prof. A. M. Bell, born in 1819, has been struck by—not apoplexy, palsy, or a locomotive, but—Cupid's dart. Pleased by the photograph of a Britisher, he sought an interview, and, on New Year's day, at New York, "they were married and lived happily ever after."

—Dr F. W. FRIKKE, of Wiesbaden, was a leader of reform in German spelling for years. His was an earnest spirit: his motto, "On the right road!—the goal in view—steadily forwards!" ("Be sure you're right, then go ahead."—Davy Crockett). His organ was "Reform," monthly, twenty or more octavo pages, published at Norden, Prussia. On his reaching the age of eighty years, 4th December, 1890, that event was celebrated: but he lived only until the spring of 1891. Then the editor's chair was filled by Dr Edward Lohmeyer, Kassel, for some years, and now by Father Spieser, of Walthambach, Alsace (Elsass).

—"Le Reformiste" (bi-weekly, 18 rue du Mail, Paris, France, 5 francs a year outside France) is printed in simplified French spelling. It is devoted to "simplification of spelling, abolition of city-gate dues, improvement of agriculture and stock-breeding, diminution in the number of our legislators, and reform of our institutions. It wishes to relieve working-men of taxation, taking from those who have a superfluity the equivalent of this relief." This is a large contract! If accomplished, "Hercules' labors" would be eclipsed. The amount of change from prevalent French spelling is about equal in extent to that produced by our rules. The rules it follows with exemplary words and exceptions occupies a column of three inches by thirteen in type of average size.

—Rev. Dr Hepburn, medical missionary to Japan, has retired and lives at Orange, N. J. He is noted for having published the first dictionary of Japanese. He has published a translation of the Bible into Japanese in Roman type. This has so far established word-forms for Japanese in Roman dress, a syndrome to ideographic word-forms long in use. That work he bravely tackled and successfully accomplished; just as Luther, without intending it, established word-forms for German by translating the Bible into German. Luther, hostile to things Roman, chose Gothic letter-forms, prevalent yet, though a syndrome to Roman forms, steadily gaining in frequency of use especially in books and scientific publications as distinguished from popular prints, though the populace is getting its eyes accustomed to Roman forms. During Elizabeth's long reign, and longer, the Roman forms were syndrome to Gothic ones in English—due to Henry VIII. Luther chose his own dialect; Hepburn, that of the capital; Henry chose wives, leaving orthoepy to take care of itself—hence the helter-skelter Tudor forms we have now.

WORD-REGISTER.

AMENDED (OR REVISED) SPELLING.	PROPOSED ORTHOGRAPHY ("SYNDROM.")	COSMOPOLITAN ORTHOEPY (VARIORUM.)
centurion	sentūrion	sen-tiūr-ion.
century	sentyuri	sentyu-ri-
entrance (n.)	entrens	entrens.
" (v'b)	entrans	en-trans.

TRIAL CORNER.]

SIKING DISTINCSION.

[By request, we giv in Orthografy this selection put by Bell in "vocabulary style" at page 72 of his treatis on "Sounds and their Relations," as again in "colloquial style" at p. 76. Here then we hav each of these many words in three forms for comparativ study—first, orthografy; second, vocabulary, solem, or formal, speech; third, colloquial—the latter two by a master fonetician. It is tho't that this wil serv a useful purpos, namely, for critical examination.—EDITER.]

It iz natyural in evri man tu wish for distincsion; and ðe prez ov ðoz hū can confer onor bai ðar prez, iz, in spait ov ol fols filosofi. swit tu evri hiūman hart; but, az emīnens can bi onli ðe lot ov a fiū, pasiens ov obskiuriti iz a diūti, hwich wi ð not mōr tu aur ðn hapines ðan tu ðe kwalet ov ðe wurld at larj. Giv a lūs, if yu ar yung and ambisios, tu ðat spirit hwich throbz wiðin yu; meziur yursel wið yur ikwolz, and lern from frikwent competision ðe plas hwich natyur haz aloted tu yu; mæk ov it nō min batl, but straiv hard; strengthen yur spl tu ðe serch ov trūth, and folo ðat specter ov ekselens hwich beknz yu on, beyond ðe wolz ov ðe wurld, tu sumthing beter ðan man haz yet ðun. It ma bi yu shal burst aut intu lait and glōri at ðe last: but if frikwent falyur convins yu ov ðat mediocriti ov natyur hwich iz incompatibl wið gret acsionz, submit waizli and chārfuli tu yur lot; let nō min spirit ov revenj tempt yu tu thro of yur loialti tu yur cuntri, and tu prefer visios selebriti tu obskiuriti craund wið paiēti and vertyu. If yu can thro niū lait on moral trūth, or bai eni ekzersionz multiplai ðe cumforts or confirm ðe hapines ov mankaind, ðis fam gaidz yu tu ðe trū endz ov yur natyur; but, in ðe nem ov hevn, as yu trembl at retribyutiv justis; and in ðe nem ov mankaind, if mankaind bi ðir tu yu, sīk not ðat izi and acursed fam hwich iz gāðerd in ðe wurk ov revolūsionz; and ðim it beter tu bi for ever unnon, ðan tu faund a mōmenteri fam upon ðe basis ov anarki and irrelijon.—*Sydney Smith.*

KEY:— II—ORTHOGRAFY.
 a e a i i o o ō u u ū
 as in at ell ale ill eel nor gnawer nou put do
 art err not lawu
 Diphthongs: au ai oi iu iū
 as in now my boy cure Hugh.

NOTES ON WORDS.

Throndiuck.—In our October issue we raised the question as to the orthoepy of Throndiuck. Surveyer Ogilvie, who o't to no, calls it þron'dik-; that is, *thrown* or *throne* and *Dick*.

Dyea, Taiya.—Dyea, in Alaska, near the new gold fields, raises a question of pronunciation and of spelling too. The spelling Taiya is found, authorized by the U. S. Board on Geografic Names—and this indicates tai'ya. or tai-ya—which? Our American Indian—the name is probably his—has not acoustic discrimination fine enuf to distinguish t from d, nor p from b, nor k from g, but he uzes the pairs interchangeably. This explains the alternativ "Dyea," presumedly pronounced dai'a, or dai'ya., and not dya.

Every.—We hold that *every* has had but two sylabls for five hundred years. This we prove by citing Chaucer's *Prolog*, v. 3:

And bathed every veyne in swich licour 3
 which is scand thus:—

And bath | ed ev' | ry veyn' | in swich | licour
 for again and again this occurs, as

Inspired hath in every holt and heeth 6
 Inspir | ed hath | in ev' | ry holt | and heeth

So hadde I spoken with hem everichon 31
 So hadd' | I spok | en with | hem ev' | richon

And every cryke in Britayne and in Spayne 409
 And ev' | ry cryk' | in Brit | ayn' and | in Spayn'

Can any reader quote a line from any poet from Chaucer til now in which it is different? Bell, speaking of French, in *Sounds and their Relations*, p. 87, says:—

"In the sylabls de, je, le, ne, etc., the vowel is frequently elided, but in careful pronunciation a non-sylabic glide is heard; corresponding to that in the English word ev'ery."

from which we understand his orthoepy to be ev'ri- Does this ° require recognition in Orthografy? We suppose not, tho it must be considered "a moot point which demands filologic interposition" (*Vietor*). *Every* belongs to a clas: from the noun *enterance* an e has disapeard holly, in *hinderance* it is found with extreme rarity tho derived from *hinder*, while *several*, *general*, *different*, *difference*, etc., ar going the same way, or shud by analogy. The same principl is at work in French, as in *revenir*, two sylabls, rev-nir' In the proces e becomes ə, which shrinks to ° and then vanishes, ° being a door of exit.

Truth.—Distinguishing ū and u by the macron is necessary in scool-books only.

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