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# DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELING.

TORONTO, CANADA, January, 1902. Vol. II, 21.

N.º 71.

#### NEWS-NOTES AND COMENTS.

-A memorial of Sir Isaac Pitman, a mural tablet, was unveild recently at Bath. The ocasion receivd notice by the London and provincial pres. The Bath Chronicle said: "No diffculty danted this brave, devoted Inventer-Misi mary, with step activ as a bird's wing, mind boyant and lambent as air. Wherever he went, and he went nearly evrywhere, he told his Mesage . . . . . With amazing zeal, energy, faith, enthusiasm self-sacrifice, ther was no reason why he shud giv up days and nights to this work, but he was fild with his Idea, and saw in it vast power for the benefit and magnes of his kind." and progres of his kind.

HERE LIVED So reads the tablet menSIR ISAAC PITMAN tiond above, put upon
B. 1813 D. 1897 the hous, 17 Royal Crescent, Bath, Eng., wherin Pitman past his latter
years. He was a citizen of Bath continuosly from
1839, and it was put by the city corporation, the
first so placed in onor of a presnt day worthy.
It was unveild by A. W. a Beckett, pres't of Institute of J(o)urnalists, of which Sir Isaac was
an erly member. Besidge, his shorthand is almost indispensabl to jurnalism. Afterward, lunchon was served on the lawn, with a son. Alfred chon was served on the lawn, with a son, Alfred Pitman, as chairman, to a distinguisht company among whom wer Lady Pitman, another son (Ernest), the mayor, aldermen and councilers of Bath, town clerk Watt, Hall Caine, a Beckett (asistant ed.ter of Punch), and many notabls.

-This paragraf from The Toronto World was copid and provoked coment among Britishers: "In England, the feature that strikes the colonial pres is the mother cuntry's bakwardnes to move in any progressiv direction, especialy one that wud promote the empire's trade and comerce by improved speling and decimalization of weights, mesures and coinage. Reformd speling wud go far toard making the language the vehicl of all the world's comerce."

—The London (Eng.) Daily Chronicle as wel as The Star and The Morning Leader now hav these spelings: program, favor, labor, honor, etc. It seems as the the world does move when three daily newspapers in its conservativ center take Prof. Brander Matthews' advice on page 81, "Start, but go slo" "Start, but go slo

-"Wake up, John Bull!" is a series of articls in the Review of Reviews. John (a later Rip Van Winkle) shows signs of waking when daily papers in his metropolis adopt Websterian spelings and other Americ n methods. He rubs his sleepy eyes now. Wil they not be wide open when he finds how far behind in the race he has slipt while he slept hypnotized into a state of self-satisfaction by trecheros flatery? An English leter just to hand says: "Keep on stiring us up. It wil take all the proding yu can giv to get us into a center" us into a canter.

-"A Plea for Simplifying the English Language" is an articl of three pages in Harper's Monthly for July last by the author of Ayres' Orthoepist. He is a purist, begining by saying French in Paris and German in Berlin ar spoken

with greater acuracy as to gramar and orthoepy shan is English anywhere, in which censurable slovenlines is too prevalent. From much els, we quote three points: (1) A sound always made by educated Englishmen and herd only to a limited extent in American speech, is e in person, it is girl o in word unin murder, vin mystle [not in girl, o in word, u in murder, y in myrtle [not e in person, gerl, werd, merder, mertl, comonly herd]. Before fifteen years ago the sound was seldom herd from lips of American acters. Now ther ar very few that do not make it properly. It is very important in refined uzage. (2) A comparate giving a inversion excursion Asia Parate is giving a inversion excursion. on eror is giving s in version, excursion, Asia, Persia, etc., its z sound, for which ther is no dictionary authority. (3) A most comon sin against good uzage is mangling final vowels. Even in some prominent players ment is ment, sent is sent, less les, ed ed, and the like. Such pronunciations as perel, interem, chapel, Laten, Helen, ar comon.

—Slurd a (strictly, a), the weak neutral vowel, if too much in use in the United States, as Ayres complains, is stil more frequent in British speech, where about evry vowel outside of strong sylabls is slurd. In U. S. ther is a large propor-tion of medium-strest vowels (or, beter, medium strest sylabls, denoted in HERALD-notation by a hyfen after the sylabl, while weak sylabls hav a period therafter). Grandgent says (p. 2 of Ger. & Eng. Sounds, Boston, 1892): "Haf-accented syl-abls ar much more numeros in America than in abls ar much more numeros in America than in the mother-cuntry: dificult, e. g., is in England dific'lt, while with us u has its ful value. The difrence is especialy noticeabl in words accented on fourth sylabl from end: compare American solitary [sol'i.te-ri] and Eng. sol'i.te-ri or sol'it.ri. This development of secondary accent is, I supose, part of a tendency (much stronger in America than in England) to pronounce words as they ar speld."

Canadian speech, as compared with that of the United States, has slurd vowels in greater frequency. Thus, towel and Martin ar words herd here comonly as tau el. and mar ten or mart en. In the United States they wud be likely to be herd with distinct vowels in the final sylable (tau el. and mar tin.)

—An acute observer, Prof. Skeat, says: "The best method of denoting o in 'come' is the real crux in evry system proposed." The vowe in question is not universal—at any rate it is not comon as a principal vowel. Thus it belongs not to German, Italian or Spanish. Something like the didentical is herd in Franch. Germans it, not identical, is herd in French. Germans employ the weak neutral much as we do, as do other nations; but a weak neutral and a principal vowel ar difrent. Where ther ar great ups and downs in stres, weak sylabls ar thik, especially in coloquy. Weak neutrals ar tabood in Orthografy, a set of fixt word-forms, the more or les requisit in Orthoepy, a fluctuater.

—See, they come apears a beter test for any scheme, judged by the light of our experience. An accepted notation for the vowels in these three words wud solv the problem of New Speling virtualy, ading three differentials to the alfabet, discarding q and x.

- —This invites yu to subscribe.
- —The Hamilton Spectator says: "A week ago she orderd the printer to make her "dawnce cawda." The Duke intervened. Yesterday she calld and askt for her "dance cards."
- —Shud the vowel in up hav an u-sign or an a-sign? This question is bro:t up by Mr Phipson's statement (taut too by Whitney) on p. 81 that u in up is more akin to a than to u. If an a-sign be chosen, turnd a (v) wil hardly do. A more acceptabl sign is the Internat'l Fonetic Asocia'n's a-sign (A), got by removing cros-bar from A. An u-sign (U) has been much uzed in America, tho in at least two quarters the other (A) has apeard. In Europ an a-sign of one kind or other is uzed. Mainly, the sound has desended from an u-sound even tho spelt with o. Etymology favors U; fonetics favors A. Here ar sampls. Wel bigun iz haf dun. Such juj wun shud shun. Wel bigun iz haf dan. Sate djadj wan cud can. Wel bigun iz haf dan. Sate djadj wan cud can. Wel began iz haf dan. Sach jaj wan shud shan.
- —Anent the above, readers wil recall a statement by Mr Tuttle on p. 64: "Londonese A is similar to a of father, hard, calm. In U. S. accented vowel in fungus, other, under, is not apreciably difrent from unaccented ones. The same is tru of England's northern shires (Lloyd)." If A be proven local, that makes a great difrence.

## LITERATURE.

THE NEW TESTAMENT IN BRAID SCOTS rendered by Rev. Wm Wye Smith, with a Glossary. 331 + xiv large 8vo pages; Gardner, Paisley, cloth, 6 shilings net.

Of all dialects of our language, those in suthern Scotland hav developt farthest toard an establisht literature and its indispensabl vehicl a setld speling or fixt set of wordforms (Platform, plank 15). Long ago Scotland had a vigoros nativ literature chekt by politico-religios upheavals and disputes. After the rebelion in 1745 peace alowd a literary revival. Ramsay and Burns in the 18th century wer folod by a host in the 19th. Dictionaries and glosaries apeard. Words asumed forms setld mostly after coresponding ones in English or imitations of them. It is interesting and instructiv to observ how such wordforms waver and hover amid varying orthoepy and Old Speling to setl in their own sort-of-system. Its problems paralel ours. Mr Smith's rendering of the New Testament deserve study in this light. It is, like the Nineteenth Century N.T., coloquial, rather than stilted, and "juist Scots eneuch no to be unfathomable to the ordinar English reader." Mr Smith edited Scotish words in the Standard dictionary. Leaving his nativ Jedburg when three years old, he was reard near Brantford, Ont., the family uzing its border dialect in daily speech. In this book we meet an Orthografy developt amid varying orthoepy, ever hidebound by servil imitation of current Old Speling. We lern:

"Burns' dialect, fixt as the literary form of Broad Scotch: has been mainly folod, notwithstanding many Border predilections on the part

of the translater, Burns, Scott, and Hogg ar the great dialectic authorities in Scotish, to whose diction all must conform; and the world accepts as the language's representativ form a dialect uzed by these, and which is not strictly peculiar to any definit locality."—Foreword to Glossary.

In other words, when this speech, a lineal desendant of Old Northumbrian, develops fixt wordforms, it folos literary leaders, with an orthoepy understood evrywhere tho spoken just so nowhere. In America the book is to be had by mail for \$1.50 from the translater, St Catharines, Canada.

OUR ACCURSED SPELLING: WHAT TO DO WITH IT. Paper, 142 pages 16mo, edited and publisht by E. O. Vaile, Oak Park, Chicago, Ill.

In this the editer of *Intelligence*, a semimonthly educational jurnal, presents definit statements by sevral authorities favoring amendment of orthografy. Of them four (Müller, Whitney, Haldemann, Medill) ar ded, three (March, Harris, Lounsbury) ar with us yet. Müller's articl, out of print except in *Chips*, shud be kept to the front as a campain document. It is reproduced here with others of like tenor for that end. The colection givs authoritativ statements and reasons for most that we contend for. Its asertions, made deliberatly by men taking ful responsibility for their words, the result of strong and mature convictions, shud hav great weight. Endorst by scolars so far, their words shud be suplemented by concerted action along moderat lines until jurnalists and educaters take hold of these questions as practical problems within their sferes. In speling this pamflet, after puting in practis most Preferd Spelings with genral change alone of ph to f, its editer at p. 117 asumes the contributer's quil as to alfabetics for nine pages and then givs place to Mr Blackmer for ten pages more to resl with script and print diferentials that lead to such New Speling as readers hav had exemplified in DIVELUPMENT (B) on our p. 56. It sels for 25 cents, \$2.50 a dozen, which may be adrest separatly.

#### ANOTHER JURNALIST SEES IT.

The Globe, a Toronto morning daily establisht in 1844, has got some haf advanced light. In its issue of 2d Oct. it said:

"Educational authorities claim that lerning to spel—memorizing thousands of combinations of leters to expres words—ocupies two years of a pupil's average scool atendance, an estimat not exagerated, . . . . Absolvd from this they naturaly make more progres in other branches."

The two years of scool life and energy ar wasted by the age of fourteen. By the end of a university cours, four years ar lost. Ontario has lately herd Pres't Loudon (Toronto University) declaring that German students go over virtualy the same ground as our students for degree

of B. A. by the age of 19, while ours average 23! The key to the puzl is, the Germans lern to spel as duks lern to swim.

A New Speling hants The Globe, for

"By ading ten or twelv new leters it wud be posibl to spel most words foneticaly, and such leters as ar useles duplicats cud be eliminated. The change wud remove the greater part of the mental burden of lerning to spel . . progres in reading and riting wud be quite as rapid as now under the fonic system, with no resultant incongruity like the 'bad' speling seen in subsequent use of an alfabet that never can be fonetic.

Insted of "ten or twelv new leters," but two or three vowel differentials ar requisit to produce a New Speling fonetic aproximatly and in efect. In The Globe's city is a lith paper heralding its feasibility and demonstrating its practicability. A generation bro't up partly on this and partly on the fonic system wil be quite likely to "kik agenst the priks" and outrageos irregularities of Old Speling and demand amendment. This, too, The Globe sees:

"The reformer wil say that the fonic system with its erly mastery of reading and riting and its subsequent anarchic [?] speling, may be a blesing in disguise. A generation that has not memorized the traditional speling of words in comon use may be more wiling to recognize the need of fundamental reform."

A few objecters, who shud no beter, stil harp on the oft-anserd, stale and quiteexploded etymologic bugbear. The Globe puts itself right in this:

"Improving the method of expresing the language in printed caracters involve not los of the history of words, or even the history of speling. We can preserv the history of the evolution of a Mauser rifle from the old matchloc without burdening the modern wepon with some trinket or device from each intermediat form.

#### PREFERD SPELINGS.

When, in good uzage, a word is speld in more than one way, it is requisit that one be selected and adhered to. Refering to what we quoted from Murray (our p. 80), we hav ofn to chuse between what "is at presnt favord by preponderance of uzage, and what is intrinsicaly best." Now what is intrinsicaly best is sometimes not easy to determin. Each word must be determind on its merits, involving intricacies not tho't of at first. Mere shortnes, tho a desideratum, shud be alowd to decide but exceptionaly, and in equivocal cases.

Such selected spelings ar not at all reformd spelings. They ar in good use evry day somewhere. We call them Preferd Spelings, a clas preliminary to Amended Spelings, and useful to the timid.

Lists of preferd spelings uzed in the New York Independent and in publications of Funk and Wagnalls Company apeard in these colums for July, 1897.

The report on Variant Spelings before the Public Scool section of the Ont, Ed'I their sevral reports,

Asoc'n (referd to on our p. 78) as amended apears in the Aso'n Proceedings, 1901, p. 43.—a list of Preferd Spelings givn as:

"RULES OF THE SCHOOL:

1. Write e for æ and œ.

2. Omit u in our, as honor.

3. Do not double the consonant in weak sylabls

of verbal derivatives, as 'traveler.'
4. Spell 'center' 'fiber,' 'meter,' etc.
5. Scripture names as in Revized Version.

6. Omit apostrofe in such names as St. Marys.

7. Word-list: abetter abridgment accouter acknowledgment advertize adz agast altho alum-inum analyze anemia Algonkin ambassador appareling arbor archeology ardor armor athene-um ax ay (yes) aye (ever) balk baptize barreled bark bazaar behavior belabor benefited benzin bequeathe beveled biased blithely blithesome bourn brier bromid burgeois burden by (noun) by-law by-and-by calcimine caliber caldron calipers calk candor carbid catalog center cesura centimeter chastely chasteness check (noun) checker chlorid chlorin chints cigaret civilize civilization clamor clangor cocain color connection coquet (verb) coquette (noun) cottar councilor counselor conservater creasote curtsy curtesy cyclopedia dactyl decalog decigram deciliter defeuse dekameter demagog demeanor develop divest dialog diarrhea dieresis dike discolor dis-favor disheveled disk dispatch distil diversness dolor domicil dram draft driblet driveler dueler duelist dulness embarkation enameled enamor encyclopedia endeavor enrolment envelop epauentryciopedia endeavoi enforment envolopione let epilog equaled esophagus Eskimo Eskimos esthetic etiquet fagot favor feldspar fervor fetal fiber Fiji flavor flier forbad fort fulness gaiety gage gaily gamboled gang gantlet gelatin glycerin gipsy good-by governor graveled groveler gild (noun) guaranty (noun) guarantee (verb) harbor Harrisburg hemorrhage harken havoc hektogram hektoliter hektometer hight (noun) homcopathy homonym honor hoveler humor hydrid hydroxid idolize immortalize intrust iodid iodin jailer jeweled jeweler jewelry judgment Kelt kilogram kilometer labeled labor lacrimal lanch leger Lewis legalize leveled libeled license licorice Linnean liter (and derivativs) lodgment luster mama Manchuria marshaled marveled marvel-ous materialize meager medaled medieval meter milligram milliliter millimeter miter modeled mold morphin mustache neighbor niter novelet ocher odor esophagus offense oleomargarin om ber oriflam oxid paneled paraffin paralleled paralyze parceled parlor partizan penciled periled peroxid Phenician phenix phenomenon plow polyp practise (or practice) pretense preterit program Punjab prophecy (n.) prophesy (verb) quarreled rancor raze receit reconnoiter redout reveled reveling rime rimer rigor rivaled riveted roweled rumor saber saltpeter saviour savor scepter seamstress sepulcher sherif shoveled show shriveled simitar syrup skeptic skilful smolder smoothe sniveled sniveler somber soyran specter spelt spelled stanch stedfast stenciler story sty sulphate sulphide sulphur sulphurate sulphuretted sulphuric sulphurous sumerset synagog tasseled teazel technique tendriled theater theolog the thrash tinseled toweling trammeled tranquilize traveled traveler troweled tumor tunneled umber valor vapor vialed victualed vigor vise (a tool) vizier vizor wagon whisky wilful woolen worshiper wo woful wreathe (verb)."

When this amended report comes before the Ont. Ed'l Aso'n next April, we think it cannot do beter than apoint a committee of haf a dozen educaters to stand for eight or ten years and make an annual report on Preferd (of variant) Spelings. In this way a valuabl collection of Preferd Spelings wil be had by consolidation of

### COSMOPOLITAN SPEECH.

The brief eulogy deliverd by his Highnes was red in a ciear distinct voice and enunciation not to be improved on. The Duke talks English, which is more than can be said of some Englishmen, and if his standard is to be accepted the clergyman who said "He who hath yaws to yaw, let him yaw," did not employ our tung. Some one said, as the Duke finisht his reply to adresses the first day at Ottawa, "Why, his pronunciation is Canadian." Except that he givs a broader sound to a and slightly slurs r the description is correct. As to what they tho't of this in Australia and New Zealand, where language is a cros between Whitechapel and Vermont, contemporary anals ar silent. Linguisticaly we Canadians, with the one or two slight difrences noted, ar decidedly in good form.—Ottawa dispatch to Toronto Globe, 23d Sept. ["He that hath ears to hear let him hear" (Matt. xi, 15) ocurs in the Anglican liturgy. Bell says London curats may be herd any Sunday rendering it as, 1. det. ep yez te. yez let im. yez. This and "houli goust" for Holy Ghost arests a stranger's atention.]

The Duke's coming gave certn Canadians a severe shok. The average Canadian speaks good English. A few cultivate a speech imagind the style of the upper clases in England. The irreverent call it the "blawsted" style, and make mery. But the fad's victims stuk bravely to it til the Duke's arival. Then "blawsted" style Canadians wer amazed that he spoke ordinary, plain, evry-day English, without frils, accent or nonsens. We hope it wil result in droping nonsensical imitation of the Lord Dundreary variety of Englishman, one that exists principaly on the American stage.—Hamilton Spectator.

Dean Thomas, adresing the students of Bryn Mawr, comented on American English and British English. These two parlances differ, in mouths of peopl of equal culture, chiefly in pronunciation. London English is recognized in a moment by its cadence, even when no words ar distinguisht. What is standard English? Not London English, certnly, for educated residents of Ireland, Wales, the north of England, and Scotland do not uze it, but pronounce, barring local difrences, nearly like good American English. The future standard wil be much like cultured American pronunciation of today, both becaus of mere weight of numbers and becaus

Canadian of Toronto.—Dr R. J. LLOYD, of Liverpool, in Neuere Sprachen, July, '95.

#### MARKT LETERS.

Shud cut, turnd, or markt leters be adopted? Mr Spurrel of Carmarthen, Wales, a wel-known publisher, author and printer, has givn much atention to theoretic fonetics, and understands wel the exigencies of printing. He says:

"I ofer a hint from the printer's view-point. No scheme wil find favor with the trade unless on a digraf basis. Markt leters of any kind ar virtualy new, necesitating ading to fonts and alteration of cases. As a rule, capitals hav no accents, nor hav script, Old English, German text and other fancy sorts so that in first stages of and other fancy sorts, so that in first stages of reform accented leters can hav optional use only: otherwise, printing wil be more expensiv, requiring special fonts, Turnd leters wil not do. Ther wil be constant erors, the turnd in a rong place, the unturnd in a rorg place, a printer's reader wil hav to chalenge evry leter capable of being turnd. A turnd leter must be a new leter, and shud difer in some way from the unturnd."

This, in substance, has been urged all along by Ellis, Evans and others with large experience in fonetic printing. Liverpool, Eng. E. Jones.

Our readers (of vol. i, p. 196) alredy no Ellis' opinion against markt leters... R. C. Harding, Wellington, N. Z., had this to say recently in The Practical Printer:

"If ther is one thing more than another foren to English grafics, it is anything in the shape of acceuts or diacritic marks, aptly likend to 'a ro of [broken] glas botls on a wall.' Oing only to the comon delusion that the dot is a part of i has it been tolerated so long.

..... We think turnd leters quite inadmisibl in Orthografy (= New Speling). Such as a, v, x, ar found only in Orthoepy and Fonetics in which we take freer rein, uzing whatever is convenient and consistent, as  $\beta$ , 3,  $\eta$ ,  $\chi$ , 3,  $\int$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\theta$ ,  $\Lambda$  — outlawd in Neo-orthografy or New Speling...... These five caracters, fi, fl, ff, ffi, ffl, hav separat boxes in type-cases. However, in THE HERALD outfit, type of this size has f not overhanging. These five boxes then ar unnecesary and ar uzed for two or three indispensabl vowel-differentials with boxes to spare. In the capital case a few empty boxes ar found for "sorts" which ar utilized for new capitals. Then be cute enuf to buy right f's, now obtainabl with most fonts, and Spurrel's "alteration of cases" wil not be requisit so far as New Speling goes at any rate.—Editer.

For fuler explanation and Platform see cover of Annual of New Speling (postpaid, 10 c.) publisht evry July as archives of each year.

of mere weight of numbers and becaus American speech fasion is a mean between greatly varying British modes.—N.Y. Post. Recently, conversing with a gentlman whose English I tho't particularly precise and pure, I found him, on inquiry, to be a specific particularly precise and pure, I found him, on inquiry, to be a specific particular of the specific property of the specific particular of the specific property of the s