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The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELING.

3^d YEAR.

TORONTO, CANADA, Sept., 1887.

N^o. 27.

—Dr. Javal's observashns, as givn on next paj, shud tha be suported by independent testimony, wil pruv fatal tu fërms lik *o* and *u*, and perhaps tu *i* and *j*. In thez fërms ther is a slît chanj belo the lîn ev sît. This chanj apers not enuf fër lejibility. Fërms lik *p*, *q*, *j*, *y*, hav stud a test ev sentyris ev experiens—*Jj* only tu sentyris. *J* can hardly be considerd a very gud shap, eltho wîdly yuzd by diferent pepels; and "mînd yur *p*'s and *q*'s" is a proverb. Had *j* its tal prolengd enuf tu mek it reverted *j*, it mit *du*. *u* wil not *du*, whîl *u* *mæ*. We must hav botm distincshns at lest as lejibl as thoz ev *p*, *q*, *j* or *y*.

—Orthograpy is wun thing, Orthoepy is anuther. The later aproximats the fërmer. When the exijensis ev printing, sa a larj dely paper, ar considerd with its hurry, its telegrams, and its nît-wurk, it is manifest that comon requisits ev Orthoepy, tu sa nothing ev its nîsetis, canot be fulfild. In it, we must sho: 1, acsnt, which wil comonly be index enuf tu quentity; 2, fonetic silabicashn, not olwaz îdential with etumolojic silabicashn, as Bel sez, se p 103; 3, quolity ev sounds, shoing *æ*,

simpl unvocalîzd breth, which is distinct from *u*, a regular vowel. Orthograpy duz not go so far, but, insted, efn shoz composishn er erijin ev a wurd.

—Her is a sampl ev distinct, as distinguisht from colloquial or mumbling orthoepy. Acsent 1st silabl ecsept markt on seend. Sound *th* as in "thin."

In a drer-nîted Desem'bær,
Tu hapi, hapi træ,
Thî branshez nar remem'bær
Ther græn felis'iti:
Thæ *nørth* can not un *du'* thæm
With a sleti hwisl thru thæm
Nær frozn *thæ* inz glu thæm
From bud inz at thæ prîm.

In a drer-nîted Desem'bær,
Tu hapi, hapi bruk,
Thî bubliuz nar remem'bær
A pel'o'z sum ær luk,
But, with a swet ferge'tin,
Thæ stæ thær cristl fretin,
Nevær, nevær pet inz
About thæ frozn tîm.

Q! wud 'twær so with meni
A jentl gurl and bei!
But wær thær evær eni
Rîthd not at pased jei?
Tu no thæ chanj and fel it,
Hwen thær iz nun tu hel it,
Nær numed sens tu stel it,
Wær nevær sed in rîm.

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THE LINE OF VISION.

Dr. Javal, of Paris, made a report of certn observations of great interest and importance. If tru, as we ar inclin'd to think they ar, the principl involvd shud hav weight in helping to determin what modifications shud be adopted for alfabetic shapes as being most legibl. The statements ar made in Report of the Comisioner of Education. We giv a condens't translation :

" In reading ther is no time to examin each leter in all its parts; so far is this from being the case, that the eye travels along a perfectly horizontal line which cuts all the short letters (such as a, c, e, etc.) at a point just belo the top, the other part of the letters being seen indirectly, and striking regions of the retina more or les distant from its center. Dr. Javal givs a number of proofs in suport of this proposition, the easiest being the foloing: Cover with a piece of paper the uper haf of the short letters in a line of print, and it wil be found nearly imposibl to read it, but if the uper haf is left expozd, & d the loer conceald, scarcely any difficulty wil be experienst. Moreover, taking into account capitals and accented letters [numerus in French], ther ar, out of 100, at least 85 letters rising above the uper portion of the short letters and only 15 falling belo the line. These facts ar of importance in determining the shape to be adopted for type. [They indicate a modification above as beter than a tag belo]. It is desirabl to giv letters such shapes that they may difere from one another as much as posibl in the parts along which the line of vision travels."

SWEDEN.

The Rættstavningsseelskap, or Swedish S. R. A., establish't in 1885 under presidency of M. A. Noreen, professor in University of Upsala, counts 800 members, among whom is a very large proportion of profsors, instructors, and the first linguists in Sweden. It organ, *Nystavaren*, appears at irregular intervals. The society does not propagate, as other societis do, both a fonetic orthograpy and one partialy reform'd: it uses a fonetic spelling only (without new characters.) To make *amen's*, ther exists, outside the Society, a very in; ortant movement for moderat reform, at hed of which ar found linguists Tegner, Lyttkens and Wulff. In spite of this reg'etabl split, traditional spelling appears in a wors way there than elsewhere.—French *Buletin Mensuel*,

[The last statement means that spelling now current in Sweden stands a good chance for considerabl amendment, and that soon. —Ed.]

LITERATURE.

ELEMENTE DER PHONETIK und Orthoëpie des Deutschen, u. s. w. (Elements of Speech-Analysis and Pronunciation of German, English and French, with reference to the Tutor's Wants, by W. Vietor, 2d edit., improved. 270 pages, 8-vo, paper. Henninger Bros., Heilbronn, Prussia, 1887. Price \$1.20.)

ELEMENTS OF ORTHOEPY: consisting of the most esential Facts and Principls compiled for use as a text-book in Academy of Science and Art at Ringos, N. J., by C. W. Larison, M.D., Principal, etc. 268 pages, 12-mo, cloth, 2d edition. Publisht by author at Ringos, N. J., 1887. Price \$1.25.

Prof. Vietor's is a treatis on speech-sounds after the modern scientific method. The Introduction givs cuts of vocal organs with apropiat description of structure and function. Part I givs a ful account of the different sounds in the three tungs. His treatment of vowels is ful, lucid and intently interesting, especialy as the author is so wel acquainted with literature of subject and familiar with works of such names as Bell, Ellis, Meyer, Sweet, Storm, Trautman, Sievers, Evans, and later Franke and Passy. We might expect to find names of Willis, Donders (of Utrecht), Helmholtz, Wolf and Seiler, who hav delt with the acustico-musical side of the question, but this does not enter into scope of this book, altho a part (pages 194 to 218) treats of related subjects as Tone, Accent, Strength, Duration, Loudness, and Pitch. Bell's usual 36-place vowel table is reprodust with evry place fill'd by a sound from a living tung. Yet he does not folo Bell's system nor any modification thereof. His plan is that of key-words, necessity for which Bell himself appears to hav allow'd in recent publications. Insted of reference to key-words only, V.'s plan is rather a resultant of that plan combined with latest reserches in vocal fysiology. Vowels ar group't into *a*-sounds, *e*-sounds, *i*-sounds, *o*-sounds, and *u*-sounds, which makes his meaning plain and justifies term lucid apply'd to this and all other parts of it. It wud hav been more truthful to hav clast our vowel in *ox*, *not*, or *what*, as an *a*-sound. This view of ours has been confirm'd independently by Powel, as our readers wil recolect. The *v*. in *ox* or *what* is close *a*, as that in *father* is open *a*. Both ar low sounds; neither is lip-rounded. Open *o* (*o*) is slightly lip-rounded; close *o*, quite so. To open *u* (*u*) and close *u* (*u*) it appears proper to apply the term lip-protrusion, if indeed the later be not the proper term generally. Our *a*, *o*, *u*, vowels wud then be exprest in order of descending natural pitch, with increas of lip-protrusion (from none in *a*-sounds to its extreme in close *u*), thus, *a*:*o*::*o*:*o*::*u*:*u*. It may be notist how

bentifully the relationship in each pair is shown by similarity, yet sufficient difference, in shape, close a (o) being but open a (a) with strait downright part removed. A like relationship exists between pairs of e and i-sounds; thus, e:i::a:e where e and i ar now open as compared with e and a which ar close.

As Part I treats of fones singly, Part II explains their mode of combination into words, frases, etc., with principls of accent, emfasis, pitch, cesura, etc. As sort of apendix to this part we find several attempts to indicate the spoken form of the three tungs. This is done by diacritic marks, not by letrs of shape differentiated from existing ones. This is not offerd as Orthografy but to secure its object: scientific notation of actual speech—the raw material so far workt as to be plain to the eye as wel as ear, material for Orthografy, not Orthografy itself.

Turning to his exampls of our language, we find in them a reflex of certn ritters on fonology rather than a broad general view of the language. We cannot resist the conviction that after the evidence is all in it will much modify the verdict. Diphthongization is made by far too much of, for not only is it quite modern, as our author is aware (p. 32), but it is far from general—the preponderating majority using the three diphthongs in *now, my, boy*, only and do not diphthongize close i to iy, close e to ei, close o to ou, nor close u to uw. Our author is wel aware that Ellis does not agree with Sweet, who is quoted (p. 50) as saying: "I certnly make no distinction between *mourning* and *morning*. Scotchmen do, as also arcaic speakers in London, but it is certnly extinct in the yunger generation." The riter of the above shud come across the Atlantic and lern that ther ar a few milions good speakers neither Scotch nor old foggy Londoners. The standard speech is broad or general as distinguisht from naro local: it is that of British Isles, N. America and Australia.

Turning now to Dr. Larison's book, we find no references to literature of subject unles mention of Webster, Worster, Walker, *et al.* be such. It is intended for scool use, actual clas-room work, and may be said to be the theory of Orthografy. If V.'s book was material for Orthografy, this is such largely workt up; and, altho not completed, is a fairly close approximation to Orthografy. These remarks ar justified by its being in a 12-vowel alfabet in which a, e, i, o, u, ar properly givn their powers in pat, pet, pit, poet, put, respectively. The new forms ar differentiated from these. It being printed thruout in the 12-vowel alfabet givs pupil practice in proper pronunciation of words, the more comon ones recurring frequently. So many words hav the apparently personal pronunciation of the author that it is hardly a safe guide to folo in evry word. This

mars its value. Of several such clases of words space wil permit us to call atention to one only. Open o is givn before r (without dropping his rs tho), where it shud be close o. Thus, (p. 77), *hoarse* is pronounst exactly as if it wer *hourse!* whil *war* is pronounst to rime with *war* insted of with *shore*. One to several exampls can be found on evry page. What then shud be fold? The anser must stil be "The Dictionaris," somewhat perplexing tho their notation be, and their orthoepy not uniform. A plain idea of how we speak is givn by diagrams which may be explaind as a sort of blak-board way of indicating breth-sounds. So-cald mutes ar taut to hav no proper sound of their own. We believ that Wolf and Madam Seiler, independently, more than a dozen years ago, reacht the conclusion that all our elements (yes, even p, r, k) hav tones of their own, and no none ar strictly mutes. In this respect, the teaching apears hardly up to date. The plan of key-words is fold. We fail to find acurat descriptions of how the several sounds ar product. Why? Ar they too difcult for academic use? Surely not; that wud ad to the pupil's interest. Insted of acurat description once givn for each, the statement "the oral vocal tube is so manoeuvred" is too much used, Manifestly, L. has curage of his very decided convictions. He must be a bold, brave man, who has lancht out so far orthografically and expects to get a pecuniary return from public. As a scool manual for use it shud hav a large sale as the orthografy product is legibl. It is a worthy part of fast-growing bibliography of speech-analysis, and apears wel adapted for pupils aquirng the elements of vocal fysiology.

ENGLISH SPELLING CONDEMD.

The present mode of spelling English has been tried before the tribunal of reason, and has been condemd.

It has been condemd by the unanimus voice of filologists, who declare that it distorts facts, obstructs study, and hinders helthy growth of the language.

It has been condemd by teachers, who declare that it burdns the growing memory, deceivs the growing reason, and dwarfs the growing understanding of children, and makes of 'their teachers' eforts an enormus waste.

It has been condemd by economists, who declare that it causes evry year in the total a loss of milions of days and milions of dollars, in lerning, teaching, riting, and printing superfluous leters.

It has been condemd by statesmen who see in it the main cause which raps more than one-tenth of our hole population in total, and nearly one-haf in almost total illit:acy.

It has been condemd by Christian filanthropists, who see in the more than pagan darknes of English speling, a hindrance greater than pagan resistance to the rapid spred of Cristian civilization among the nations of erth.

Science, history, education, literature, comerce, religion, morality, unite in condemning a system which defies sience, belies history, obstructs education, hampers literature, hinders comerce and cheks growth of religion and morality—*Speling*.

This is a terribl indictment. It is made by responsibl partis, however. It behoves our readers to examin it carefully—especially those who ar responsibl for the educational laws, whether of State or University. Felo riters of the pres, the only posibl leaders of reform in these days, ventilate the question without a bias. The right wil then prevail.

—*Educational Review*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

2 RULES VS. 24 RULES.

SIR,—I think it beter to unite in pushing partially amended speling of yur 2 Rules (which ar nearly equivalent to the 24 Rules), than in atempting real fonetic speling. The trubl with the 24, or Joint Rules, is that they cannot be apliced as their authors, the filologists, intend, unless the speler is an Anglo-Saxon scolar. For instance, Rule 8 [which reads: Drop silent *u* afr *g* before *a*, and in nativ English words] tels me to rite *gilt* for *guilt*, but, not noing whether *guide* is a nativ word, I am in dout whether I am alowd to change it to *gide*. So of Rule 14, tho I am directed to spel *scool* I am forbidn to rite *s:eme* but must spel it *scheme*. Therefore yur 2 Rules:

REVISED SPELING: 1. OMIT evry useles leter
2. CHANGE *d* to *t*, *ph* to *f*, *gh* to *f*, if sounded so
ar more comprehensiv and satisfactory than the 24.

New York.

ELIZA B. BURNZ.

HE COUNTS 4.

Sir,—I notice yur statement that 1,000 subscribers at 25 cents each yearly wud be required to suport a small monthly devoted to Amended Speling. That is no greater revenue than a singl Sunday Scool requires and shud be promptly raisd. To help along, put me down for four (4) copis.

Toronto.

W. A. DOUGLASS.

A FACT:—"Papa, how do yu spel def?" "How do yu supoz, my boy?" "Why, d-e-p-h, def." "No, d-e-a-f." "But what is the a for, papa." "First, it is to make the word one-third longer than necessary; second, it wil mislead peopl, as it does, to mis-pronounce it and say def insted of def—two very poor reasons."

IS IT "NEETHER" or "NEITHER."

The pronunciation of "neither" is very generally considered a mater of taste. Most dictionaris giv both pronunciations, but good speakers invariably give the long e (e) sound, altho the long i (i) sound is generally suposed to hav no more serius objection than being somewhat afected. and is a pronunciation ofn adopted by clergymen, especially Episcopalians. It is, however, incorrect, as its origin wil sho. It is welnon that the German pronunciation of ei is i, as "das feind," the enemy, while the English rule is to pronounce the difthong as e, as "receive" The e sound was invariably givn in "neither" until the reign of George I. Being of the Hous of Hanover, and speaking English indiferently, he gave 'he German pronunciation to the difthong. Court parasites tho't it proper to ape the king and this pronunciation spred. Few peopl no this origin and hence the general mistake.—*Home Jurnal*.

—The editor of HERALD, Toronto, Canada, rites us as to our efforts: "Yu ar doing a good work. I hope yu wil

'Lern to labor and to wait'

as we hav in America." So in America too tner is oposition to amendment in speling! They who fight for it must "hav patience and perseverance." We hartly concur in this opinion and pride ourselves on having aided the movement in some mesure. We send a co-worker's harty greeting.—Norden (Prussia) *Reform*.

A very good man was Mr. Holmes—
Altho he was nothing but skin and bolnes—

He sang in the choir
With vim and phoir.

And shook the church with his deep bass tolnes—

Sampls like the above ar getting very comon in United States and Canadian newspapers. They sho the sensles irregularity of old speling. By getting them inserted in papers, we heap ridicule upon it. Evry one shud use his influence to get them inserted in any paper where he can.

—O. P. Moor has copyrighted a monthly scool report card which his nineteen years of experiens as a teacher has sugested as the very best. To place speling reform more particularly before the public, the card is printed in Amended Speling. It has a dubl report colum, one giving the average standing of the pupil, and the other that of the clas. The cards wil be sent postpaid for 35 cents per 100. Adres O. P. Moor, Window, Minn.

—The bil of the Dorsetshir hosler speaks for itself; here it is:

afortheos.....3d.
clininosansha.....4d.
brininimomagin.....6d.

total.....1s. 1d.

That is 'ay for the 'oss—'cleanin' 'oss an' shay—bringin' 'im 'ome agin.