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The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

VOL. II, 14.

TORONTO, CANADA, April, 1900.

NR 64.

THE BATL OF CHICAGO.

As announced (p. 50) "the congregation," a body governing Chicago university, met on 3d Jan. about introducing into all the university publications (several journals, calendars, etc.) these twelv spelings:

altho	demagog	prolog	thorofare
catalog	pedagog	tho	thru
decalog	program	thoro	thruout.

It took all afternoon to thrash it out thoroly. Prof. T. C. Chamberlain led, supported by Prof's Judson, Blackburn, Tolman, Terry. The oposition leader, Prof. Paul Shorey, was absent, but Prof's Hale, Abbot, Capps and R. F. Harper supplied, Hale insisting that efectiv reform requires alfabetic enlargement, others tho't such impracticabl (forgetting that j, u, w, ar fresh additions). Presnt spelling was shown to be "irregular, inconsistent, irrational" having "a sinister moral and intellectual effect on erly education." The vote was 20 for to 16 against the resolution that

"Adoption by the board of the University Pres for use in oficial publications of this university of the list of words with changed spelings adopted by the National Educ'nal Aso'n be approved."

The 16 wer of two clases: one oposes all change; the other favors radical scientific reform—objecting to having the (g)nat of Revized Speling oferd while redy to swallo the camel of New Speling. The latter clas is perhaps larger and seems likely to hav more influence when the question is setld. Prof. R. F. Harper (Semitic lang's) said:

"It wud be more sensibl to hav a system more fonetic for spelling all words. I spoke and voted against the motion not because I do not favor reform but because I disliked the way changes wer introduced. They go ahead unsientifically without plan [?]. They cater to sentiment by changing a few words at first, then gradually introducing more—disastros at last. Make sientific revision, laying all sentiment aside to accomplish reform."

Many radicals suport this. Some favor awaiting more genral demand for changed spelling, others wish to perfect a system for use now in university publications—a course puting Chicago university in the van, difrent from the one pursued by that

THE HERALD is publisht (with misionary object) in Jan., April, July, Oct., at 57 Harbord St., Toronto, Canada. SUBSCRIBE AND DISTRIBUTE in letters, in scools, privatly in a hundred ways: 8 copis to one adress 25 cents a year in advance; 20 copis, 50 cents; 45 copis, \$1; 100 copis, \$2. Issues for a past year, 10 c. Foren stamps taken. Yur influence to extend circulation is solicited.

of Padua in like case (see p. 50).

The literary faculty, strange to say, ar inactiv, indifrent. The strugl is between sience and clasics, the old fight between which crops in here and affects the problem. A professor said:

"Clasicists fear New Speling will take away a strong argument for study of Latin and Greek, removing all [?] resemblance between English and Latin words. Sientists, acustomd to save time and mental labor at evry posibl turn, see a chance to shorten the road to noledge by cuting off square corners in spelling. Clasicists cling to old forms because they love them."

Prof. R. F. Moulton, Shakspearian scolar and literary critic, thus exprest the indifrence of the professors in his department:

"New Speling wud affect literature very litl. Words wud sound the same, and sound is of most importance in literature. Removing foren endings wud not mater much one way or other. We hav dropt some now. Many literary men of reputation who hav studid the question more than I tel me the change wud benefit our literature."

During January, it was tho't other universities wud folo suit, when (on 3d Feb.)

"A change came o'er the spirit of my dream." The university senat vetoed the congregation's action. *The Times-Herald* said

"By a close vote . . . the senat's decision . . . is final for a time. . . Chief arguments against change wer that the reform was of doubtful benefit because affecting so few words, not radical enuf. Sevrul educators objected to making the university a pioneer [shedding a halo of glory—they prefer to imitate Padua]. Pres't W. R. Harper, responsible for bringing the question up at first, was not calld on to vote. He is said to favor change but did not care to turn advocat."

Manifestly, the rising tide of shorter and beter spelling sets in two directions: (1) Old Speling revized, (2) Sientific (or New) Speling. The senat's act is granny sweeping bak the tide with her broom! It is unlike Chicago to be swept bak. A thwart but spurs and nervs to action.

NEWS-NOTES AND COMENTS.

—Our thanks ar due kind frends (Kimball, Coleman, Marriot) who kept us posted during the batl of Chicago by acting as war correspondents, sending prom(p)t dispatches.

—*The Toronto World*, a bright, newsy, crisp, morning daily newspaper in its twenty-first year, has long been a favorit as a succinct news-epitome and (with us) because of izing such comendabl wordforms as honor, program, plow, ax, wagon, etiquet, mold. On 16th Jan., it began use of the N. E. A.'s twelv words and keeps it up thruout (that is, advertizements and all). The riter met its editor, W. F. McLean, M. P., in the

street-cars. Asking for news of the greatest reform on earth, he soon received recent clippings from Chicago papers, and next day *The World* proclaimed its advance in practice. Mr McLean expressed strong convictions on these three points: (1) The first thing to be done is to smash the Old Spelling fetish. (2) A type-setting machine costs \$3000; a type-riter, \$100. With so much capital invested in these expensive machines (with an expensive operator of each) why keep both machine and operator one our or so every day putting in silent letters? They crowd out useful matter, filing space greatly needed. (3) General change of ph to f shud soon be bro't about. So far as we no, but one objector to *The World's* advance has yet appeared, the musty-stale etymologic objector, anserd editorially.

—*The Journal of Education* (London) for December had letters on fonetics from Mr Atkinson and Mr Drummond, the former advocating them in acquisition of languages, the latter (in reformd spelling) for school purposes.

—Hardly any one in the world of letters declines now to acknowledge the desirability of Spelling Reform, tho left to next century to carry it to effect.—Phonetic Journal's Annual Adress.

—Anglo-Saxon has grown and continues to grow very satisfactorily. Text-books in Latin do much harm by fostering belief that English is not a decent language in which to learn classics. The idea still clings to some professors that it is hardly fit to be used. With this I disagree entirely, and think it not inferior to any.—Prof. Skeat, as president Mod. Lang. Association.

—All the most valuable improvements made recently in etymology have resulted mainly from study of fonetics accompanied by close and careful observation of rith forms in early manuscripts. Spoken utterance really constitutes words and sentences; rith characters are mainly symbols, convenient for recalling such words and sentences, but still subservient and subordinat. [Moulton corroborates this on page preceding]. I speak feelingly, because in my own education I was left to pick up French and German sounds as best I cud, with scarcely any help.—Prof. Skeat, *ibid.*

—THE HERALD, 57 Harbord st., Toronto, Canada, (no more, no les) is the best way to address the most advanced journal on earth. Then there will be no mistakes made with the Christian Ende(a)vor Herald on Richmond st., nor with a certain patent-medicin, cure-all Herald.

—The Chicago *Tribune* (alas! shade of Modill!) of 21st Jan. had an article against spelling reform by Ira W. Howarth, Ph. D., instructor in sociology, Chicago university. It is verbose and lernedly weak—extremes meet. Near the end it tells us: "All that I have said against sp. ref. applies, of course, only to sweeping irrational proposals. There must be change, there must be progress, but it shud be along old lines—by growth." Meantime, the sociologist's co-laborer, Semitic linguist R. F. Harper, is at the opposite pole. One says "Go slo, gro"; the other: "Thro aside sentiment, let's have brand-New (scientific) Spelling." The world is wide enuf, our platform broad enuf, for both to work in harmony, both results used concurrently, one a syndrom or alternativ of the other.

—A Cristmas card, dainty in its neatness, conveyed greeting to THE HERALD by this legend: "Friendship, like the ivy, clingz To olden times and olden thingz.

May Cristmas bring yoo Joy and the New Year every Happiness from Mr and Mrs Drummond, S. Nicolas Hous, Hetton-le-Hole," Eng. [speld so.]

—The Department of Superintendents of the N. E. A. met for several days in March in Chicago. About 1000 were present from all directions, especially from states contiguous. The com-

mittee on spelling reform advised no new steps, declaring the great need of the day is to establish more firmly and widely the changed spellings already adopted by the Association. In view of this need they urged (by resolution) N. E. A. directors to appropriate \$1000 a year for five years for spelling propaganda under direction of: Dr W. T. Harris, pres't, Dr N. M. Butler (Columbia University) 1st vice-p., Pres't W. B. Harper (Chicago Univ.), 2d vice-p., Sup't F. L. Soldan (Saint Louis), Prof. F. J. Child (Harvard), Dr Ward (editor of Independent), Prof. Lounsbury (Yale), W. D. Howells, Sup't Andrews (Chicago), Benj. E. Smith (managing editor Century dictionary). The committee explained that while these men had not all been consulted, all were well-known as earnest advocates of spelling reform. It authorized the commission to fill vacancies in itself, certain that enough would accept to organize and start a definite movement to mend spelling. It aroused considerable discussion, being supported by Sup't Bright, Col. Parker, and others. A motion to refer the report to the directors without recommendation was voted down. A motion to accept the report and make it a special order at the next meeting of superintendents was carried.

—*The Intelligence*, a journal of education, in its 21st year, furnishes information for the paragraph above. E. O. Vaile is editor and publisher at Oak Park, Ill., a suburb of Chicago. It puts in practice quite a number of amended spellings.

—Chicago advocates of better spelling are neither snuffed out nor discouraged, but hopeful. The "close vote" recorded by the Times-Herald was a simple turn-of-the-scale of one, that would have been a tie had Pres't Harper voted. Besides, there was a bare quorum present. There is reason to hope, or even to no, that among absentees better counsels will prevail. When another pul comes the result may be different, unless the folly of retrograde, old-world Padua is to be repeated in progressive, new-world Chicago.

—*Gleanings in Bee Culture*, semi-monthly (Medina, O., \$1 a year), is disposed to practice some revised spelling, but objectors among subscribers prevail. Habit, prejudice and unreason prevail. Get people to reason: the bottom drops out of their case.

—This invites you to subscribe.

L I T E R A T U R E.

L'ECRITURE PHONETIQUE, par Paul Passy, Docteur es-lettres, Directeur-adjoint à l'École des Hautes Etudes, 2me édition, 1/2 franc, Paris, Librairie Populaire, 119 B'd Sebastopol.

LES SONS DU FRANCAIS, leur Formation, leur Combinaison, leur Représentation, par Paul Passy, 5me éd., 1/2 francs, Paris, Librairie Firmin-Didot, 56 Rue Jacob.

L'Écriture Phonétique is a pamphlet of 17 pages 12mo—a popular, tho brief, exposition of how to use the International Assoc'n's alphabet to record speech. Principles are discussed in three pages, the alphabet defined in two more, a vis-à-vis specimen of French is on p. 6, script forms on p. 7 (and 25), applications to French take pages 8 to 21, pages 22 and 23 give the alphabet's extension to other tongues. Pages 26 to 47 give a vers (John iii, 16) in 137 languages or dialects.

Les Sons du Français is a paper-covered book of 190 pages 12mo, going over much the same ground as *L'Écriture Phonétique* but discussing it thoroughly, a full treatise on fonetics. After considering noises and sounds in general and the production of speech-sounds in particular, a notation for them is reached (p. 21). Part 2d (p. 23 to 129) treats all phenomena of speech and the constitution of language, as intensity, pitch, quality, syllabification, duration, intonation, dubl sounds

classification and aspects of vowels and consonants, their combination, assimilation, elision, fusion. Part 3d treats of language-representation exemplified by 170 versions of John iii, 16.

A brief statement as to Passy's work is in order: Bell gave us an entirely new set of symbols, not Romanic, not familiar—Visibl Speech. Ellis did the same in Roman forms—Palæotype. Sweet gives another version—Visibl Speech revizid, belonging Bell. Passy gives a Roman notation, comparabl to Palæotype, but simpler, les clumsy. Quite cosmopolitan and polyglot, with ful view of the labors of Bell, Ellis, Sweet, Storm, Vietor, Helmholtz, Sievers, Donders, Braecke, Western, and many others, he is yung, a recent expounder of fonetic sience, an expert fonetician. [By the way, Fonetics and New Speling ar very difrent fields, tho adjacent, overlapping—don't forget it. Orthoepy is a bridge between them.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

PRONUNCIATION OF *branch*, ETC.

SIR: Not satisfied with bransh, Frensh, insh, etc., I practist daily for two weeks and can only pronounce it bran f, with a perceptibl paus (to relax organs) before f, bran^f with t faint but perceptibl, or branf with n aproaching ñ, Spanish n, (and perhaps ⁴). *Pension* is hardly in point as n and f ar in separat syllabs giving time to relax, as in bran f. Old soldiers around here say pen^fən or peñ^fən.

A sister, a brother, and a frend succeed- ed no beter than I with bransh. This does not sho that it cannot be pronounced but that considerabl efort [to overcome habit] is required. As motion is toard least resistance, brantf, if not alrely curent, tends to become so. I do not object to orthoepic reform [choice?] where desirabl, but nf is a reform in an unnatural direction, perhaps departure from former uzage. Webster (Introduction, p. lxiv, §3) says:

"To ch in bench, bunch, clinch, drench, inch, trench, wrench, and many others, Walker givs . . the sound sh [t] insted of ch [tf], as bensch, insh, etc. It wud seem by this and other exampls of rong notation that the author had been acs- tomd to some local peculiarities, either in London, where all kinds of dialect ar herd, or some other place. In this he givs a pronunciation dif- ferent from other orthoepists, one I hav never herd in either England or this cuntry. His nota- tion is palpably rong, ours . . universally corect."

This, in absence of proof to the contrary, shows that nf, or aproach toard it, is an English habit contracted since 1800. The speling ch raises presumption in favor of tf: burdn of proof is on those who change. Yu say yu ar neutral. If still so, stik to old speling. Change comits. The old may be defended on the conservativ principl: retain old speling if it represent pronunciation in good, reputabl use.

Addison, N. Y.

E. B. THORNTON.

[*The Standard* dictionary (page 2105) recognizes both: "*lch, nch*, as in *filch*, etc., *bunch*, etc., by English orthoepists genrally pronounced *lsh, nsh*." It appears mater of choice. Conventional decision (platform, plank 10) is requisit. American orthoepy in this, as in much els, reflects older speech. It deservs fuler consideration.—EDITER.]

CRITICAL COMPARISON BEGUN.

The riter on "Av. Am. Pron." (p. 56) is not avers to criticism. Readers ar askt to consider his work on its merits. We prefer to hav readers decide. We call atention to Blackmer's work because it is a *re- sult*, not a wild scheme dremt over night or hatcht before brekfast; nor is Mr B. of a clas denounced by Dr Sweet (HERALD, Jan., '97) as "hatching one scheme after another." Their day is (or shud be) past. *Now* we shud sumarize and harmonize re- sults of fifty years of work and agitation—not ponder briefly, then whoop "Eureka!"

On second tho'ts, noing THE HERALD appears seldom, noing many a good efort receivs neglect (too ofn merit's fate), we start discussion by an analysis: examining "DEVELPMENT" (markt B) and "DEVEL- OPMENT" (H). Counting diferentials and markt leters in each we find:

	In B	H	B	H	
Dif-	{ a 21	i 15	Markt { i 13	letters: { ê 10	
eren-	{ e 35	a 14			o 3
tials:	{ u 32	u 14			

Not counted ar ö and ū (1 each in *law, improve*) because they mark distinctions not attempted in B. If these distinctions ar requisit or desirabl H furnishes a redy means to sho them—an advantage.

Difrences ar les than they seem: i or i is uzed for ī, ī being likely (from habit) to be pronounced as i in *fine*; ê or a is uzed for ē, ē being apt to lead to e in *he* insted of *they*. So, i and ī ar alternativs, as ar ê, a. Again, i is ī with mark dropt; a is ê, ditto.

However, tho i and ī corespond, as do ê and a, yet of i and ê together ther ar 23, while of i and a ar 29. Inference, use of i and a is not shirkt where tho't requisit. Critical study of all this wil repay readers.

Oing chiefly to use of ð for dh, words in H hav 18½ ems space a line, those in B hav 19½: difrence 1 in 19½, over 5 in 100, 6 in 100 if superfluos g (?) in such words as *extinction, bank, single*, (ecstingcshun, bangk, singgl) be alowd for. We giv the figuring, as shud be done in such cases.

Overuse of v (32 times) is remarkabl. Ful haf is the weak neutral vowel (^a).

Conclusions: (i) B has twice the dif- ferentials in H (88 : 43); (ii) B requires 8 times as many markt leters (23 : 3); (iii) B is 6 in 100 longer; (iv) B uzes dh for ð and wud uze zh—both ar unfamiliar in Old Speling, "not in it." Is ther any good reason to inflict two awkward digrafts (formd by straind analogy) when ther is a beter way?

Brevity is not of first consideration, but an incidental advantage. Of cours, if H play retched havoc with orthoepy (a bul in a china-shop) we ar redy to take a bak seat, or even to be put in pound. Let us hear the other side, and by this or some means reach a model specimen of New Speling.

AVERAGE AMERICAN PRONUNCIATION.

I accept the signs for the eight short vowels (in the Amer. Philologic Asoci'n's Scientific Alfabet) as herd in *it, et, at, ask, not, obey, but, full*. The corresponding long vowels in *eat, eight, air, father, ought, no, burn, rule*, hav the same signs with a mark (I prefer the circumflex) above. I uze c, never k. In dictionaries, works on pronunciation, and scool books, 16 vowel-signs ar needed: in book and newspaper print, it is unnecessary to indicate all long vowels. The least number of vowel-signs proposed is ten: all the short ones, and the long ones in *eat, eight*.

The Century dictionary makes no distinction between u in *burn, bur*, and e in *her, over*. Acordingly, I spel them thus: *burn, bur, hur, ovur*. The same dictionary says e in first syllabls of *begin, berate, become*, is "modified toward or to the corresponding (natural) short" i of *it*. In New Speling they become *bigin, birêt, bicum*. *The Standard* dictionary (p. 2107) says:

"Most historical dubld consonants ar now pronounced singl, but when between a distinct short vowel and an accented syllabl of separat signification, both ar retaind, as in 'ac-cord'." As to the sound of e in *her, over, begin*, Webster's *International* and the *Standard* acord substantially with the *Century*.

Observing all this, and uzing ten vowel signs, the selection belo is believed to reflect in New Speling average American pronunciation. I take the latest three dictionaries as guides, not foloing one to exclusion of the others.

Oak Park, Ill.

O. C. BLACKMER.

In Niu Speling acording tu articl abuv.]

DIVEUPMENT. (B)

Saientiific studi haz aded anudhur pis ev prizumptiv evidens in fêver ev imortaliti, a prizumpshun hwich cud hardli hav bin recognaizd bifor dhi discovuri ev dhi thiori ev evolushun. Wi hav lurnd dhat dhi wurld and el dhat it centênz woz not criêted complit in its prezent form, but dhat it haz arizn diuring long êjez thru a siriz ev steps, ich step foloing its predisoser in a manur hwich egzibits lè, progrès and organice cõnecshun widh it. Gasios nebyuli condens in dhar rotêshun and dipozit a rœci cor. Rœcs crumbl intu soil. Soil givz burth tu vejitabl laif. Bai and bai dhar appir plants having dhi abiliti tu tœc in niutrimint, hwich dhê nau dimand shal hav bin pripard fœr dhem bai udhur plants; and immidietli dhi animal cingdum cumz intu biing. Dhi simplest formz ev animal laif, spunjez and dhar cindred protozoanz, hav dhi woturz tu dhemselvz until fishez dœminêt dhem. Inovêting fishez venchur aut upœn dhi land, tœc tu bridhing ar, divelup legz œr wingz, and bicum reptilz œr burdz. Sum ev dhiz impruv dhar cœndishun bai bring-

ing forth dhar yung alav, and at wuns dhi rês ev mamalz biginz. At last cœshusnes divelups intu selfcœshusnes, dhi abiliti net onli tu fil and pursiv, but tu rigard wun'z self az an œbject ev thœt, and man appirz. Evri step iz an advans œn dhi prisiding; evrihwar dhi taid goz fœrward widhout eb, dho particyular wœvz risid. Individjual spishiz mœ retrogrêd, foloing bacward in rivurs œrdur dhi path œv advans; but dhen ecstingeshun sun telz dhi wurld dhê ar œn dhi rœng trac. Degradêshun mœ œccœr, a vaiolent plunje tu disœrganizêshun and deth; fœr dhi privilej œv going tu hel egzists thruout dhi œrganic wurld. But dhi fact dhat dhiz ar blaind aliz, œvur hwich nœchur irects dhi wœrning, "No thurofar," points significantli tu dhi stedi progrès in divelupment az dhi aviniu tu laif. Dhi individjual hu rifiuzez tu fœlo dhi path œv dhi yunivursal plunjez tu ruin. Dhi yunivurs'ez plan fœr itself iz fœrward.—*Rev. Fred'c Palmer*.

READ, OBSERVE, COMPARE, REFLECT.

The specimen "Divelupment" is a *result* (not an experiment) of many years' study and extensiv trial of wordforms. With our work it has points of difrence, not of conflict. To ð BLACKMER prefers dh, analog of th, and zh (for which we find zi or zy beter), analog of sh. B. asks three diferentials (a, œ, u), two markt vowels (i, ê); but we find three (u, i, œ) enuf. C and œ ar not needed becaus a-vowels ar redily distinguisht by position, as ar o-vowels. Readers ar left (rather askt) to compare, criticize, choose:

DEVELOPMENT. (H)

Saientiific studi haz aded anudœr pis œv prezum(p)tiv evidens in favor œv immortaliti, a prezum(p)sion hwich cud hardli hav bin recognaizd befœr œe discoveri œv œe thiori œv evolusion. Wi hav lernd œat œe wurld and œl œat it contanz woz not criated complit in its preznt form, but œat it haz arizn diuring long ejez thru a siriz œv steps, ich step foloing its predisoser in a maner hwich eczibits lœ, progrès and organice cœncœsion widh it. Gasios nebyulaz condens in œar rotœsion and depozit a rœki cœr. Rœks crumbl intu soil. Soil givz berth tu vejitabl laif. Bai and bai œer aprr plants having œi abiliti tu tek in niutrimint hwich œe nau demand shal hav bin prepard fœr œem bai œœr plants, and immidietli œi animal kingdom cumz intu bring. œe simplest formz œv animal laif, spunjez and œer kindred prœtozoanz, hav œe wœterz tu œemselvz until fishez dœminat œem. Inovœting fishez ventiuar aut upœn œe land, tek tu bridhing ar, develop legz œr wingz, and becum reptilz œr berdz. Sum œv œiz imprœv œer cœndision