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Fonetic Herald

DOVOTOD TU ORTHOOPI AND ORTHOGRAFI.

1st Yer. Port Hope, Canada, Des., 1885. Nº 10.

RETROSPECT-1885.

With this number, the Herald's first year is finisht.

Of our first number, 2000 copis wer printed; of the second, 1500; of several others, 1000; no edition has been les than 600. In all nearly 10 000 copis hav been di tributed to between 7000 and 8000 persons, and red by 12 000 peopl or thereabout, most of whom wer holly ignorant that any practical steps toard a Revised Orthografy had ever been taken or even seriusly pro posed. So far, we hav done something to awaken atention, to show that it is begining in ernest, that it is simpl and practicabl, and not such a revolution as might be or had been suposed. How far we hav succeeded in making favor abl first impresions we no not but trust we hav, amidst much dificulty and dis curagement presented truth in shape deserving apreciativ comendation.

The above may be considered as the popular or mis. onary aspect of the case. To it most of our space has been givn. The other aspect is the filosofic—the sienti. ic principls which underlie an ac ceptabl alfabet. Toards this we have helpt a litl. In the words of a hard worker in the field, 'we must agree or fail." While we ar agreeing as to final result, we can push on popularly the erlier and acceptabl changes.

We canot meet for counsel, scaterd as we ar. Some printed vehicl and means of intercomunication seems par amount, especialy as the subject is so capabl of and requires printed exem plification. If the Herald is not fulfiling such duty, let it be superseded by a betr—something of the kind ther shud be somewhere. Other jurnals (all of them in English ar devoted to

shorthand) ar too expensiv to distribute broadcast and most wil be liabl to confound the short caracters with Simplified Roman print as something newfangld and largely topian. Thankful for help from any quarter, Rectified Speling shud stand alone on its own foundation.

One of the Herald's objects is, at a trifling expens, to get and keep together those interested in a Revision of Orthografy. Its price is lower than an Association with like aims cud be man aged. The reason for keeping its size small is that it may be enclosed in letrs and wil be red becauz short; being so cheap it wil not be felt as a tax, while those who chooz can circulate it as a tract by subscribing for a number of copis as per scale of terms.

Besides this the Herald works in the general field of the English language in several of its aspects, holding that our language is too litl understood and that its structure, history, power, beutis development and flexibility shud be betr non and apreciated. It especially holds that an elegant forcibl graceful yet distinct and corect orthoepy shud be promulgated on sound (in dubl sens) and fixt principls, so as to supersede our present mumbling, mouthing, labial, hat-nasal speech.

It is not yet self-sustaining. Help it to become so by favoring circulation and by contributing ideas so that it shal betr fulfil its end and lead to a jurnal publisht somewhere under betr auspices. It is becaus of inactivity far from 'masterly' in other quarters that we hav felt impeld, after long waiting, to hold the helm.

by a betr—something of the kind ther shud be somewhere. Other jurnals this work and our circulation helpt (all of them in English ar devoted to to the extent indicated by gentlmen

whose names ar givn below and whom we hereby mutualy introduce:

Douglas W. J. B.A., Toronto, 25 copis HALL T. P. B.A., Woodstock, 25 do. BARKER, Rev E., Toronto, 12 do. BENGOUGH THOS. do. do. CHARE SAMUEL, dα. do. Horr, Asv. M. D., Dubuque, Ia., do. Kidder, Rev. J. H. Owego, N. Y. do. KNUDSEN, Rev. C. W. Norwalk, Conn. do. MONTGOMERY, W., Perrytown, Ont. do. Mullison, J.C. Middletown, N.Y. do. ORR. W H. Toronto. do. do. Tyson R. do. WATSON, W N. Seaforth, Ont., do. A duble circulation we hope for in '86.

UNIVERSAL & LANGUAGE.

While some visionaris in Paris ar trying to formulate a "universal lan guage ' it is of interest to note that, in number nearly one haf and in cir culation about two thirds, of the news papers in the world ar publisht in English and the proportion is increasing evry year. The ' universal language is here alredy and in good working order. - New York Tribum.

The language is all right enuf but the orthografy is not. A wel directed efort for placing our language upon a fonetic system of orthografy by universal adoption wil be of greater value than any endevors for formulating a universal language, and wil do more to make our language acceptabl for this purpos than anything els that can be done while saving to our peopl a large part of the best efort in their yung lives, now consumed in mastering the inconsistencies they ar obliged to contend with.—Cincinnati Courant.

Vienna has been selected for holding a congres of filologists and others who ar anxius to persuade the world that it shud adopt a universal language . .

careful examination wil be made of a new artificial language invented by a clergyman of Wirtemberg and calld Volapuk. Acording to many who hav examind it it possess very great merit and aproaches nearer to an ideal language than any that is spoken. . . .

has no irregular verbs and all verbs ing as well a declined in the same way. It is not de-

sirabl to uze auxiliary and suplementary verbs in conjugating. The verb in Turkish is said to be so simple that one can lern to conjugate it in an our. The activ voice is converted into the pasive by inserting a sylable of two letrs. The adition of another short sylable gives the word a negative signification. In it evry comon noun is changed into an adjective by a suffix of two letrs. The language has many other points of excelence. — Foungrafic World (N. Y.)

The proposal that the "world shud adopta universal language is delight. fully but preposterusly utopian to hav one simpl tung for cosmopolitan and international use by scolars is not. It wud be for lerned men what Latin was in the midl ages and stil is to some tho diminishing extent. A language can be formed with one third the complexity of Latin. It shud be printed and rith chiefly seldom spoken except at congregation of the lerned or in a real university. Lerned works, insted of being translated into one or more languages, wud, if they apeard to deserv it, be translated into the scolarly tung once for all, and so be redily accesibl to those for whom they wer prepared. It wud be easier to lern one such simpl tung insted of aquiring or haf aquiring several as now. In such a language, its orthografy wil doutles be perfectly reg-The more comon sounds wil be represented, of cours in fonetic fashon. It is matr of interest what letrs wil be uzed and what sound values ar givn them-perhaps Roman letrs and values.

The Fonegrafic World says: "In connection with the idea of the natural adoption by the peopl of speling by sound, or speling words as they ar pronounced, it is a noteworthy lact that the majority of riters now spel names of towns ending burgh, without final h as Pittsburg, Harrisburg etc., [as also Peterboro. Newboro. Pokepsie, etc., without the useles ugh.]

Prof. A.H.McKay rites from Pictou. N.S.: "We shud get from our provincial governments or the Education Departments permision to uze Revised Speling as wel as ordinary at all examinations, etc."

ORTHOEPY IN SCHOOLS.—The Educational Weekly: "Mispronunciation is so common[!!] that it is not lookt upon as so glaring a want of education as misspeling, but it is certainly a defect, and is naturally much more easily A map cannot write a letter shown. without showing his education, certain ly, but if he hav lernd his erly language faultily he cannot open his mouth without showing his youth; to him, in the matter of speech, evil communications hav begotten bad manners. It is, we presume, with the object of correcting the prevalent provincialisms and dialectic pronunciation that attention is directed to orthoppy in the examinations. ()rthoepy cannot be taught like orthografy, by written exercises; in the latter, defects arise from not seeing correctly or from not remembering [?why be compeld to remember] what we see, and written exercises remedy this, but in the former, the defects arise from remembering what we hear, and what children hav herd amis can be eradicated only by making them hear what is right. If this is not done, their wrong pronunciation wil remain with them thruout life. The requirements of good pronunciation ar three - right sounds, their division into syllable, and the proper placing of the accent."

for the statement what children hav herd amis can be eradicated only by making them hear what is right we rise to remark that with letters having shapes modified to represent each its own sound correct pronunciation can be lernd by sight. Amid 'cram' and the general crush of studies this can quietly go on without the tutors supervision. What is lernd by sight is far more fixt than impression made by the fleeting breth. Hence the general use of black boards in our schools. Horace long ago referd to the faithful eyes (FIDELIBVS OCYLES) being better than the ears.—Ed

Ea Even the decidedly conservative Saturday Review admits: "We are far from denying the desirables of some modification of our existing speling, which is in many respects unsystematic and inconvenient." Evry one will allow that improvement is desirable and redily posible in a few clases of words.

Mr T. R. Vickroy, Ph. D., rites from St. Louis, Mo.: "In the reconstruction of speling, many things ar to be considerd and chief among these is to folo the analogy of our present speling. -What use shall be made of Aa? As a is the scrit form, retain it a for Italian a as in art. It wil make amendment easier to uze new letrs for uncomon sounds. Our stopt a, as in at, ocurs only in clozed accented sylable, as in cat, fair, care. It is easier to make 'a' in accented sylabls, than to make it in unaccented ones. Ω is so suitable for ain ale that I am astonisht that any one shud question its place. E for e in eel, i for i in isle, u for difthoughl u when medial, and ω for broad a or o, comes so near solving most vowel dificultis. that I see no reason for proposing anything els. () for stopt o in not is good. I am not decided as to v which I uze for stopt u as in up. I wud prefer a for e, i, or o, as in were, fir, work, but am not decided. I think an word fairly represent the difthong in owl or pound, and it that in oil," [notwithstanding consistency wud require oi for it?

Mr Wm H. Orr rites from Toronto: "I hav just red yur last number thru and find evry line interesting. I am particularly pleased with the two rules yu giv. It is wise not to bother the public with too many rules but endevor tu get them familiar with one or two? [and these tho short and simply yet serching or far-reaching and redy of aplication.]

Mr A.J. Pierce rites from Aberdeen Dakota: "I wish the S.R.A. wer not so tearfuly afraid of new letrs. An extended alfabet is what we must hav sconer or later. Why keep dodging the issue? I do so dislike this pachwork busines."

[All true enuf. But we ar not agreed as to what new letr shapes to uze. If we wer agreed it wud be found impracticabl to introduce them except gradually. We ar compeld to be satisfied with introducing the small end of the wedge. Meantime we can discus the question and agree further.— Ep.]

Herald for 1885, sticht, coverd and trimd, wil be sent postpaid for 25 cts.

ACNOLEDGMENT.—The new letrforms in the type we ar employing was purchast from Drs Vikroy of St. Louis and Larison of Ringos, N.J., and Mr Elias Longley of Cincinnati, about one fourth from each. The other fourth we hav had cast at our own expens. Geting such type is both expensiv and trublsom, as evry one wil no who has any idea of the minutile of type found ing—especialy so when distant from a type founder. When we hav agreed to how many new shapes we shud introduce and what they shud be, being guided by definit and fixt principls. not caprice, it wil be time enul to hav cast ful asortments in the varius fonts. For that, a type-fund wil hav to be furnisht.

INDIA.—The diversity of tungs in India, says a studius Anglo-Indian, "is so great that nothing exceeds it except the much greater diversity of alfabets in the same cuntry." Indee'l, tho the native of varius parts of India can understand those of varius other parts when adrest by word of mouth, they can hold no comunication with them in riting. We ar glad that the Maharaja of Travancore, who is non the world over as an enlighted prince, has taken the initiativ in doing away with this real inconvenience. The Indian Fonetic Society, establisht under the aus pices of His Highnes, works for the aplication of Roman letrs to the Indian Vernaculars, so as to form a convenient alfabet for the symbolization of the dialects of India. - Doveton Fortnightly (Calcutta.)

WELSH.—Children ar taut to read Welsh within the first two or three years of their atendance at Sunday-Scool, coupying about an our of direct teaching per week. Why? Because Welsh speling, with slight exceptions, coresponds with the sound. Lerning to read Welsh simply means lerning the alfabet, evry letr, with one exception, having its one sound. Combining letrs into sylabls, and these into words and sentences, is a matr of practice.—E. Jones in Cristian World.

WHY hav we two p's in sloppy anyet only one in copy? Why hav we a b in dumb and none in dummy?

mea. In enough 6 letrs represent 4 sounds indicated by enu f. So ther ar in though 6 letrs for 2 sounds, tho; in rough 5 for 3 sounds, ruf; in fought 6 for 3 for; in yacht 5 for 3 yot.

THE STAGES OF REFORM, some riter says, ar the three foloing:

It is ignored. 2. It is oposed.—
 It is adopted.

In scent, scion, the c has no busines whatever—see Trench. Scent is from the Latin sentio, i. e., 'sens' of smel.

NEW MINIMUM.—The following rules ar proposed as a new minimum:
A. OMIT evry useles letr.

B. CHANGE (d, ph, gh if so sounded) to t, f, f.

They ar further ilustrated in this number. The maximum of departure from present speling is having a separat letr for evry vowel. Beyond that all is theory. Between these min. and max. limits, many points pres for such a solution as shall be generally approved.

[Maximum.]

JUST SO.—Mr D. KIMBALL rīts tu the Jurnal ov Amer. Orfhoepi: "The man object in the formeshun ov a fonetic alfabet shud be tu get as plan simpl and distinctiv a letr az can be devizd for ech clerli spokn sound, without going intu the nisetiz ov inflecshun or triing tu provid for of the posibl shedz ov sound, and at the sam tīm keping the letrz az ner thar preznt formz az me be practicabl."

KEY: a a e e e i i o o o u u a az in artatalo ell cel it l or ox no up put do

The FONCFIC HCRALD iz publisht monthly (occopt July and Aug.) It is devoted to Proxynciatrox, and to explaining and exemplifying the simplicity and practiculity ov amending our Orthografy. So ax tu spel by sound insted ov by memory. 25 cents a year.