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onetic Herald

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND REVISED SPELING.

PORT HOPE, CANADA, GPRIL, 1886.

SHAKSPERE'S ORTHOGRAFY.

By E. Jones, B. A., Liverpool.

Refering to my facsimile reprint of Shakspere's works, 1623, I find in the "Tempest" alone the following: --

SHARP CONSONANT ENDINGS - drencht, chopt, leapt, vext, voucht dropt, mockt, compast, clipt, prickt husht fixt.

FLAT CONSONANT ENDINGS -performd, curld, abhord, entertaind, staind, robd, dround, dismaid...

They ilustrate that elementary LAW: Verbs ending in sharp consonants, f, k, p. s, sh. ch. form past participl with a sharp sound, t, while verbs ending in flat consonants, v, g, b, z j, take flat d.

The above ar good old fonetic spelings in vog long before Landor, Lamb Hare and Thirwall atempted their restoration. But this is not all. I find other clases of words more consistently speld, more fonetic, and more in acord with English analogy than the curent fashon, such as shal, dwel, tel, hit, stil, od, etc., with singl insted of dubl final consonant. Why wer the second l or d aded in modern times? What use?

Again, we hav hart for heart, brest, iland, rime for rhyme, shoo for shoe, ake for ache, frend, hony, etc. The following also, all from the "Tempest", ar more in acordance with English analogy than the modern spelings: peeces, yeeld, yeer, beleeve, greef. releeve. neer, cheef, feend.

These words hav been alterd for the worse in modern times by somebody, nobody noz why. Why not go so far at least as to suport a return to betrold spelings in these and similar words?

Since Shakespere speling has altefor the betr in the following respect 1. Useles dubld consonants hav givn the like: pitty, linnen, marriner, fellony | pur si muore.) is stil tru in a dubl sens

widdow, comming, pullace. 2. Duplication of a final consonant with an aded e has been dropt as in shippe some farre logge, legge. 3. Holesale droping of useles final e. thus cheere, drinke: looke, etc., ar alterd to cheer, drink, look, etc. Why shud not a clean sweep be made of similar rubish from modern speling? 4. The most important improvement was introducing three new letrs. It is not non to whom the credit of this is due, but they deserv a monument for their curage and succes in overcoming the prejudice of their age.

J is not found in the 1623 edition, at least I hav not found it. I find Iulia, Iohn, Iack, Iuno. Iupiter. iust, iest, ioyne etc. for Julia, John, Jack, Juno Jupiter, just jest, join, etc. In the title page we hav ornamental I (which may hav sugested new J) in ORJGJNALL, but in the body of the work J is not.

Again in the 1623 edition we find 'vv' in separat types for w, tho w as a singl type is ofn found. As a new letr W is fuly establisht. We find University for University, showing that modern functions of U and V had not been definitly fixt. U is our third new letr introdust with a definit power since 1623.

What can be the objection to farther development of new letrs as needed?

The practical and material question now is: if all these changes hav taken place in the past, why shud they stop short now? A ded language like Latin may become 'fixt,' 'establisht,' but for a living one ther can be no finality.

—The Canada Pacific Railway adopts the 24-our plan on its western portion and wil perhaps do so on the eastern. Other lines wil folow suit. Galileo's place to singl ones in these words and exclamation "It moves for all that" (E

JAPAN. As alredy stated p. 35, the Japanese ar discarding the Chinese arbitrary caracters, long in use and ar adopting Roman letrs. This is but part of a general adoption by them of west ern civilization. In this respect we ar slo coach in comparison. Japan's sudn emancipation from the thraldom of an efete and unprogresiv civilization is one of the most marvelus spectacls now witne-t Following Hepburn's labors, puting their speech in the Roman dres has devolve on Mesrs Eby and Cham berlain with three native of wide cult. Mr E, has been a misionary for 9 years, sent by Methodist Church of Canada. He is now in Coburg. In Japana paper in Roman type is publisht by him. His letr in another place ansrs what values was tho t proper for the lears. It ads reasons therefor to some extent. such was doubles matr of mature tho t and as it aplies to all oriental tungs it is dubly important. Italian values ar the same as continental. It follows that the continents Europe and Asia ar in comparativ acord with Japan in their use of vowel letrs. From our point of view the matr involved is momentus.

WIIY hav we two b's in rabbit and but one in habit?

ITALY.-Mr R. A. Borge, Profesor of English, 42 Via Condotti, Rome, is going to rite a fonetic English gramar The world moves. for Italians.

I.—Mr J. B. RUNDEL rites from London. Eng., 'I believ very much in iy for long i. It is easily rith and keeps up the resemblance to my, thigh, light, (miy, thiy, hyt), but chief of all it steers clear of difficulty in distinguishing between ei and ai." Our experience is that new expedients as a clas find almost no favor in America.

ONTARIO.—At a late meeting of University Senat, the motion to alow Speling by Sound to be received at examinations was withdrawn and a wiser (becaus more moderat) cours taken of giving notice of motion that a comision be apointed to asertain and report what action has been taken by state authoritis, coleges and lerned societis to se. sound than that in comon use.

ITALIANVOWELSENGLISH CONSONANTS.

(To Editor F. Herald.)

Our problem was not simplifying English Speling but transliteration of foren languages.

1. For that, the Eng use of vowels is wors than useles for the simpl reason that they hav no setld value at all. If yu spelt a foren word acording to the analogis of Eng. vowel values no man on eith cud tel how to read it unles he new beforehand what the word was. -With the continental vowel values, any word can be pronounst with ease.

2. The thing is reverst with conson-With out slight variations Eng. consonants hav each a definit value but continental consonants vary with evri language and evry dialect.

Hence the choice. It is an economy of time and obviates a thousand diffcultis to take Italian vowels and Eng. consonants with certan fixt values. All transliterations of eastern languages folow the same cours. Such wud be my choice for a universal alfabet.

С. S. Евч.

Coburg, Ont., 17 Mar. 1886.

U.S.—The bil recently before Congres was to provide \$50 000 to establish a scool in Chicago to aford a test of speling by sound for at least a year--to hav a scool fited for 100 pupils and seating capacity for 1000 spectators that the public might hav oportunity to judge of its merit. Congresman Frank Lawler bad charge of the bil. All the Chicago congresmen wer reported favorabl.-The scheme which it proposed to try was Major Chas. A. Story's.

-Rr. Hon. W. E. Gladstone: "I ofn think that if I wer a forener and had to set about lerning English I shud go mad. I onestly can say I canot conceiv how it is he lerns English when I take into acount the total absence of rule method and system and all auxiliaris that peopl usualy get when they hav to a juire something difficult. Much may be done with advantage in reform of speling our language. It is not in my power under present circumstances cure general adoption of a method of to offer to giv time to the undertaking speling more simpl and acording to which I recomend and in which I shud gladly hav found myself able to join."

FO is a contraction for Fonoscribing. It is a simpl system of contractions by omision of letrs chiefly, got up by Col. Stewart of Philadelphia and promulgated by Mr B. W. Readshaw 94 Bird Av., Bufalo, N.Y., Several correspond ents hav sent us sampls. They apear not to see the to us) clear distinction between Fo and our work. Fo must be compared with Brief Longhand suitabl for those who wil not lern Shorthand. Shorthand is for profesional reporters, Fo and Brief L. ar for note taking for memoranda, some correspondence etc. Rational Speling on a sientific basis which we aim at is another thing en tirely and for evrybody. Distinction between them shud be observd. mislead the public to believ that the mangld remnants of words left in Fo or Brief. L. is Amended Speling is to do great injustice to the latr. Fo is a set or system of expedients the spirit of which is brevity with moderat legib ility: the late is speling by sound or a more or les close aproximation to it.

Col. S. N. Stewart is sound in the true (orthografic faith so far as shortening goes. He rites to a frend in Toronto: "I'd rather b a tom tit & feed on evrything that squirms than 2 feel compld to spl the ou g-h becaus my grandmothr did it. I'd rather b the chipmonk that roams the ragd ej of rugd rails than b chaind to a chimpanzee the the chimpanzee b my anester."

A Good Exampl. —Mr John Mills, Teftvil, Conn., has got up a club of 50. —In M's articl on p. 49, 2nd colum, read United States insted of America. M contends that Canada shud be excluded from his statement.

Partial Corections of English Spelings Approved of by the Filologic Soc. This pamflet of 38 pages give lists and clases of words whose speling shud be modified for etymololgical or historic reasons and the authoritis which warrant the change. It is printed in exact accordance with the simplified spelings. It is issued not only with the aproval of but by Fil. Soc. The changes aproved of ar mainly good old spelings which hav dropt out of use but deserv to be restored. It may be had for 25 c. from Mrs E.B.Burnz, 24 Clinton Place, N.Y.

ENGLAND.—The Eng. S. R. A. is colecting opinions on certain points of pronunciation preliminary to going on, they adopt the Five Rules givin p. 18. As a next move the S rules following ar on trial, (givin for exampl's sake in the rules themselve as promulgated):

1. Omit a from ea when sounded as in hed, helth, or in herse.

Omit e when fonetically useless, as in hara, har giv. definit, raind.
 Omit one ov dubid consonants also when

 Omit one ov dubid consonants also when fonetizaly use ess, as a pear, skind, dept, shal, wil, clif.

4. Change ph to f when so sounded, as in alfabet, fantom, fotograf.

5. Change y (vowel) to i except when final or followed by i, as sistem, fixer, pituing.

6. Change ed to t (and after a short wowel or a consonant, ced to st) when so so inded,

as fixt, practist, pronounst.

7. Change of to ov; and s to z in distinctiv words, as use (noun) uze (verb).

 Change final ce to se after a consonant and to safter a short vowel; as defense, pierse, practis.

The above instructions ar provisional only and ar not ment to limit the discretion ov individual writers. Letters may be omitted when the omission wil not mislead as to pronunsiation a reader acustomed only to the ordinary spelling.

PLEAZ SUBSCRIBE to help along an educational advance.

Some literature of Revision of Spehing after perusal by us is wasted. Much remaild apears but to miscary if we judge by lak of respons. It shal be sent to those sending stamps for postage—a redy test of apreciation.

WEBB'S NEW WORD-METHOD, Potter, Ainsworth & Co., 107 Chambers St. N. Y., postpaid, 24 c., is a strongly bound book of 130 12mo pages, excelently printed on good paper. Its author is Mr J. R. Webb of St. Josef, Mich. who first conceive and practist the method 40 years ago. It is about the best elementary reading book for those who employ that method. The principl of the method is that each word is a logograf and is to be lernd by sight as a hole insted of by analysis into component sounds. So far has speling been divorst from sound, that this is a good way to get pupils familiar with a large clas of words with unfonetic forms, as one, who, might, straight, enough. As Ane Lincoln is credited with saying-'For those that like that sort of thing I judge it the sort of thing they'd like." It is ilustrated and teaches script and

LITERATURE.

MINUTES OF SIXTH CONVENTION of the Provincial Educational Asoc'n of Nova Scotia at Truro Halifax, N. S. 1886. This pamflet of 70 pages contains an able paper presing claims of Revised Speling. It was prepared by Principal McKay of Pictou at request of Dr Alison, Superintendent of Education. As vigorus a plea for !'evision shud make an efective impression of repeate lanualy which shud be done. Frends of Am ended Speling in Ontario hav been remis in this respect since 1883. Vigorus skirmishing can redily be kept up all along the line of States and Provinces. Another important paper is that by I. B. Calkin, A. M., Principal of Normal Scool, Truro, on Methods of Teaching Beginers to Read viz., Alfabetic, Fonic. Fonetic, Word and Sentence methods. With present alfabet it is found that a use of the fonic or word method is best acording to what the word is; with an enlarged alfabet, the fonetic method wud at once come into vog, supersede evry other and render both Reading and Pronunciation perfectly simpl.

PRONUNSIASHUN.

Psalm, sam or sam, not som. amen, e'men' "a'men' "omen In singing it is comonly pronounst amen. Walker says it is the only word in the language which has two consecutiv accents.

Tokio, (Japan) Tokyo been, ben or bin, not ben, attho ben is favord by the rime in these lines from Whitier

"Of all sad words of tung or pen, The sadest ar it might hav been."

Don Juan, Don Hwan(Spanish) but Don or Don Ju'an Anglicized as Byron rimes it with ruin.

—Mr Isac Pitman, the venerabl inventor of fonografy, rites us from Bath, Eng., that Rule B givs but 3 changes in the old speling while 10 ar required for even a first stage. We ansr that it is intentionally so restricted as ther is not perfect agreement beyond these 3. The rule is so framed as to admit of a

redy extension when wisht as thus

CHANGE { d, ph, gh c s g u q. if sounded so { to t, f, f s z j w k. Mr P objects that Rule A - Omit evry useles letr is difficult of aplication by the multitude as they wil not be able to tel when a letr is useles. To any reader this wil not aply; we expect no riter to aply it who laks the litt noledge of the use of letrs requisit. Such a one wil stil go to mil with grist in one end of bag across horse's bak. a stone to balance in the other, as did his grandfather.

A E I O U.—In the following list, each vowel, insted of having an onest caracter which might be depended on "plays many parts."

A-hating, father, lather, water,

many, want. E --be. clerk, pretty, let.

I -invalid, sin, bind.

U-go do, women on, son, woman. U-unruly, busy bury, but, using,

pull persuade.

No one cud posibly tel from the a in hating what its sound o't to be in father, and the same of any other two words in the list.

MARKTLETRS ar objectionabl becaus 1. Markt letrs ar tantamount to new letrs in trubl and then ar not as distinct as good new shapes. Evry accented letr has to be cast separatly and kept in a separat box in font. 2. They ar almost imposible as capitals. 3. The space above a letr is ofn wanted for extra marks. 4. They require a frequent raising of the pen: that is, after a word shud be finisht we must stil tinkerit up in one or several places. 5. They disfigure the page: a correspondent rites "they make it as frekld and spoted as a turky seg. They ar wel enuf for a sientificalfabet: we want a practical alfabet for evryday use." DrT.R.Vikrov has had experience and rites to Jurnal Am. Orthopy: 'we caution printers not to use markt letrs. They ar so trubisom as to be impracticabl. New letrs of caracteristic shapes ar superlativly betr."

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