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The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

th YEAR.

TORONTO, CANADA, Feb., 1889.

N^o 42.

INDEX.—At end of this year we will have several complete sets of *HERALD* for sale. 5 years' issues, 1885 to 1889 both inclusiv, will be \$1.25 bound in cloth or boards, in paper, &c. Any one wishing a copy shud subscribe before 1st May—no index unless enuf be ordered to pay cost of making and printing it. Speak now or ever after hold yur peace."

PRACTISING.—"The Shorthand Writer," monthly, D. Kimbal, 85 E. Madison St., Chicago, Ill., \$1 a year) is printed thruout, advertizements and all, in Amended Spelling. For several years it has consistently done so—practising Am. Sp., but without discussing its principals. We learn that its publisher has taken steps to hav an Am. Sp. department aded in which theoretic reasons for its practice will be discut. Here is a clipping from its Nov. number, rapid literatim; in its orthog. we nearly concur; in sentiments exprest, entirely: "Shal the comm manr of riting, now crude, be improved so as to lesn labor and increas speed? Is it not here where change can be most advantageously made? Why shud we continue to cary along in our daily work a useless load of dubld, silent or otherwise superfluous letrs—a needles burden to the memory in lerning and retaining, in use a consumer of time and labor to no useful purpos. Such an uneconomical thing wud not be tolerated a day by practical bisnes men in any othr direction. Why shud not the aplication of good sens and the principles of bisnes economy bring about so simple and desirabl a change? Insted of seeing how many letrs can be used in spelling a word, see how direct and few you can use, and the present as well as cuming generations wil bles you for lighthening their load of study and work. This at t to be done, and what aut to be wil be. No power of inertia or ridicule can prevent it."

—Subscrip^{ns} in areats markt by a cross.

—Why augh in *lough*, alf in *half*, and aff in *stuff*?

—Why two *ts* in *matter*, when one is enuf for *material*?

—Misionaris, "who promis to make good use" of them, may hav a dozen copis of *HERALD* for 1885, bound and coverd, for \$1.

TYPE FUND. Alredy acnolegd \$17.00

NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

Thos McGillicuddy, Pres' Can. Shorthand Society, Toronto. (*Hamilton*)
J. A. Cherry, com' traveler, Toronto. (*II*)
Miss Libbie Bradshaw, Warsaw, Ont. "
C. E. Stanbury, Toronto. "
C. H. Brooks, " "
S. Macalister, teacher, Toronto. "

LITERATURE.

MANUAL OF PHONOGRAPHY, by Benn Pitman and J. B. Howard, 215th thousand, 144 p. small 12mo, cloth, \$1, Cincinnati, 1888.

The vowel scale is e, a, o, u, light; e, u, heavy; y, e, a, o, u, light. So, vowels higher in pitch ar rith above others loer in pitch a merit, in our eyes, shared with Graham's. Departure from this vowel plan, combined with other changes, in other 'systems', has made even a Corresponding Style largely illegibl except to those who rite that system. We urge return to the old natural scale as basis for uniform Cor. Style for all shorthanders. Page 16 givs a schematic table of vocals accordng as they ar voiced or whispred, obstructed or not, obstructed ones (consonants) being subdivided accordng to seat of obstruction. F, v ar clast as labials tho put near the teeth. In our language, they ar mixt, or labio-dentals, formd by loer lip approaching upper teeth; in some other tungs, as *Japanese*, they ar pure labials. We hold that t, d, l, n, hav same seat of obstruction, tho that may vary in diferent speakers from teeth to dome of hard palat. In French, tung and teeth tuch. As we speak here, the tung-edge appears to tuch junction of gums with hard palat in forming t, d, l, n. In *Manual*, t, d, n, ar givn in gum-region; l, at hard palat. Is this tru? The name Macdonald may, and comonly is, givn with its last 3 consonants all sounded with tung-tip unmoved; Macdon'ld. Page 88 givs recognition of certn extra-English sounds herd in other European tungs. Fuller description than a singl page is needed. We suggest that in future editions it be treated more u'ful in an appendix.

PHONOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE, J.B. Howard editor, Phonog. Institute, Cincinnati, O., 288 pages small quarto, cloth \$2.50, 1887.

PHONOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE, *ibidem*, 1888.

These beautiful, bound volumes exhibit Fonography, Ben Pitman system, and do it wel. To us they ar of much interest from frequent articles on Amendment of Speling. Beside precept, ther is, what is beter, exampl thruout of *ar, catalog, definit, gará, gio, huz, infinit, tho, thru, wisht*. In other articles we find the 5 Rules applied; in still others, the linguists' clumsy 24 Rules. All is wel done, with proof carefully red. On p. 156 of vol. for '87, Dr Roosa, the N. Y. oculist and aurist, has his name givn as Rüs'a. Roz'a is right, as we had frequent opportunity to no. This is used to exemplify how shorthand, if on a fonetic basis as ar all modern ones, is constant dril in orthoepy to all practisers of it with ears to hear. Unfortunately, ther is a large clas of bred-and-buter fonografers to whom all this is as "perls to swine." For each month is sampl with 3 diferentiated forms, a, e, u, which by use of makron, as ū, ē, ū, givs an alfabetic dres with many merits but enuf faults to leav room for improvement. The makron disfigures; it is beter to distinguish close *i* and *e* by separat characters. For the former, *ɛ* fills the bil beter than a strokt *i*, and so is used provisionaly til a stil beter *i* shape appears; for the later, *u* is a good *e* shape. They dont conflict with the linguists' dicta, and correspond beter with March's *A B C Book* than the alfabet of the *Magazine*: yet it specially comends the *A B C Book* notwithstanding. Before the *Magazine* was born, we arged this: def, very def, ar those that wont hear! In the *Mag.* specimens, ai, au, and ei, ar used for the difthongs, and that consistently. Tho 'yu' begins sylabls, 'iu' mostly is used in mid-sylabl. Dh is for ð; th, θ; ng, ɣ. Articls in this dres, if strictly consistent, with proof carefully red (room for improvement here) furnish material for studying American pronunciation. We shal refer to it and use it as such. The editor shud tel us his standard; if he departs from it, how far and in what directions? The jurnal appears as a monthly at \$1.50 a year. The issues for 1889 ar abrest of their predecessors.

THE SHORTHAND SOCIETY.

Mr Stanbury's paper before Can. Sh. Soc. on 11th inst. delt with his subject, Am. Sp. ABINITIO. From origin of speech and dispersion of tungs he sketsht hieroglific and alfabetic riting with its diferent forms manifested by Semitic and Arian nations to advent of Anglo-Saxon in Britan, the comingling of Norman-French, and later changes. He concluded thus:—

"Because we hav extracted a useful word from a foren tung, must we necessarily prosery it in its original form and hav it folo foren style in variation and inflection, also in speling such changes. 'While in Rome, do as the Romans.' So, when foren words come into our language, let them conform to our words. Because a French farmer is industrius, and desirabl as an imigrant, shal we allow him to bring his system of laud-division and render himself a nuisance b runing his farm of 5 feet wide and 2 miles long thru the country? Why persistently endeavor to perpetuate education mistakes and shortcomings in bygon centuries? This is an age of reform. As exponents of sound presentation, we shud keep pace with the age. It wud be a gain to our Society, our country, and mankind. We need not be abasht because of our numbers: minoritis ar generally right and rule is the end. Great changes come sloyly; and Sp. Reform, to be thoro, mu t be no exception. By advocacy of it, our Societ will be benefited decidedly by elevation of tone, and wide-reaching influence. In Canada, we hav a yung nation rapidly taking place as a leading exponent of progresstho't and action."

A comitee was appointed to further the object by compiling a list of those preferred two or more spelings givn by dictionaris Messrs. Stanbury, Cator, Dunlop, Gurnett, and Secretary Perry ar the comitee.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SIR, If, as stated in yur last issue, in 'liturgic' pronuncia'n (which I agree with yu is what must form our standard) first and second vowels in *London, cumbrous, succumb*, ar identical in quality, and difer in stress alone, ar they not all equivalent in quality (even in liturgic pion.) to *a* in *ocean, physician, above, Canada, America*, to *o* in *above*, to *e* in *silent, statement*, (also represented in varius othe rways); and shud not all be represented by same sign? Ar not 2d and 3d vowels in *Canada* always diferent from 1st? I speak of complete and definitiv fonetic alfabet, not a transi^{onal} one calculated as yur own expedients no doubt ar to propitiate prejudice in favor of present symbols. M.

[U in either sylabl of *succumb* has same quality as *o* in *above*, and difers from evry other vowel in words specified: see Murray *et al.* Ellis appears to teach that *v* and *ə* difer in quantity alone.—Ed.]

TR AND TSII.

SIR.—The main difference between our *voter* and French *voire* is that in French *tr* forms a consonant-difthong, like *tr* in *try, tunc*, etc.; while in our *better, voter, matter*, etc., *t* and *r* dont form a consonant difthong but ar spoken separatly. Try pronouncing *better* without any vowel between *t* and *r*, and see if yu dont get precisely the same sound as when yu pronounce *better* ordinarily, or sufficiently near to anser all practical purposes. It seems unwise to go to that extreme nicety in pronuncia'n comon among professional elocutionists; for ordinary purposes deal with clear, plain sounds alone, that evry ear can readily distinguish.

I dont like yur plan of crowding out familiar *ch* and substituting *tsii*. To my ears they ar clearly and radically diferent. Chicago, Ill. D. KIMBALL.

trial corner.]

Sir,—Ei wish yoo a very happy and successful yeer in advocacy of dhe moest important reform ov dhe prezent day. Dhe advantej ov dhis reform when acomplisht iz only comparabl tu dhe rezults ov dhe invenshon ov Printing. We see dhe

ADVANTEJ OV CONSISTENT ORTHOGRAFY (dho far from theoretically perfect) in our litl insignificant cuntry ov Wales. A London *Times* comishoner resently ecpresst dhe graitest surprreiz at dhe number ov books and newzpaiperz baut and red in dhe vernacular in Wales. Everybody can read; and absens ov creim, jeneral inteli-jens and atenshon tu relijion rezult.

Ei hav laity inneweird what English authorz say az tu

WELSH ETIMOLOGY

and graiter nonsens woz never uterd, shing how wurthles much iz dhat pasez for etimology. Dher iz a Welsh wurd 'cytuno' cleerly 'cyd-uno' = 'con-union' = agreement. Yet Skeat, Etymologic Skeat, de-reivz dhis wurd from Eng. 'cotton' tu dhe intens amezument ov every Welshman! What confidens can we hav in jujment or opinjon ov such men?

Ei feel litl interest in discussjon ov

PARSHAL CORRECHSHOZ

bei rootz in eny shaip. For teeching children in scool dhay ar ov very litl help, and every sp. reformer wil taik hiz oen cors in reiting or printing in a diferent speling.

Ar we provideing for, 1, Ded Romans or dhe living? 2, English-speaking peopl or foreners? 3, Filologists or dhe masez? 4, Eloccushonists or for ordinary speakerz? 5, Children lerning or Adults hoo hav aulredy lernt? Cleer and definit anserz tu dheez and similar cwestionz shud be givn befoer detailz can be discuss widh profit.

How much preshus teim haz beenspent, discussng simbolz for *u* in *but* and *put*? Dhe later oocz not wuns in 100. Cud we not lev such points tu stand over for feinal desizhon til points on which all agree ar adopted. How strainj dhat in dhis, az in udher materz, men wil insist moer upon points ov diferens dhan agreement! Liverpool, Eng. E. JONES.

TYRANT CUSTOM.

Reform, publisht at Norden, Prussia, is a mouth-piece of Amended Sp. in Germany, and organ of the Association there. It is edited by Dr Frikke, Wisbaden, who in Dec. issue, quotes the articl from *St. Helens' Lantern* begining "Eng. orthografy simply disgraces civilization" in speling as found in dhe *Herald*. It then translates it into German, and ads:—

[Translation] "So across the ocean it is just as on this side: Custom is a ruler whom nothing ou-

orth approaches in power. Dr K. Duden rote in 1876. 'To make he introduction of any reform depen' on the great Public's judgment means to renounce it altogether. The Public, forced thereby to renounce its use and wont, treats every inovation with distrust. How cud it be otherwise ith reform in orthog., which certly requires 'more insight than can be expected of the public.' No one wot, e. g., return any satisfactory anser to 'Why rite flur, fullen, with f; and vor, voll, with v? Yet men rite so, persist therein, finding *for, fol, un, carabl.* Even if they perciv t o perversnes of old speling and the advantage of new, they fall bak, in most cases, coward-like before Custom. So it is in Europ, nor otherwise in Americ.

"Yet Custom is not the only hindrance in bettering old 'mis-speling,' about as hurtful is

STRIEF OF OPINION.

division of forces. Isaac Pitman for 40 years has attempted freeing English of its disgraceful orthog., and with his system stands in high repute; but beside him in America and Eng. hav sprung up countles other reformers who go their own way and thru want of unity and agreement hamper the hole movement. Wer it possibl to make orthog. so perfect that evry thinking man must assent to it, Americans before all others wud, by their peculiar yuthful vigor, (unhamperd by of-ete customs and traditions) bring about its jeneral introduction in shortest time

"Survey of such facts is not pleasing, yet serves as a caution and

WARNING CALL TO AGREEMENT.

In what orthog. shal we rite if *doctus* of systems thrust themselves on us? *St. Helens' Lantern* cant ask any to use a new orthog. that does not exist; or that one folo *this* system today, *that* tomorrow. Our Associaⁿ wil further the good caus moest effectivly if it seeks to extend its circl more and more and turns away frm all controversis on side issues. In our Transition Orthografy evry friend of progress cau rite alreedy without misgiving. It wil conqer becaus it rests on a rational foundation."

What is ment by

"TRANSITION ORTHOGRAFY"

(in degree about equivalent to use of our Rules*) appears from this summary of an articl in Jan. n^r heded "What We Wish." After seting forth difficultis of Ger. speling, as 8 ways of denoting vowel-length, where to use certn letters and combinations, 5 ways of representing k-sound, which leav no cours open to a lerner but to impres establishit speling of almost evry word mecanically on memory, and tuching on absurdity of making evry child lern *two* ritu and *two* pr. nted (Gothic and Roman) alfabet., the articl proposes this remedy:—

"1. One alfabet only, the Roman. 2. No capitals except begining sentences and proper names. 3. No doubling consonants in same syllab; omission of all signs for vowel-length, except in 'close' syllabs the makron—*he:zily* needed i. riting. 4. Sim- pl signs for simpl sounds, viz. substitutes for ch, sch. 5. Omit superfluous [or useles] letters."

"Transition Orthografy" omits the makron except to avoid misunderstanding, and uses digrafs ch, sch, final b, d, for reformd p, t, silent h in *sehen*, etc.

We ar glad to see that *Reform* takes as standard "measured," that is, liturgic, pronunciation of New High German, not dialectic shades, not cursory, evryday, colou- al utterance.

APPLIED PHONETICS.

(Synopsis of Address (with discussion) before Ontario Modern Language Association, at Toronto, 3d Jan. 1889, by V. H. VanderSmissen, M. A., Librarian and Lect. on German, Univ. Toronto.)

A main application is to PRONUNCIATION of any modern language. That given here is more especially applicable to German. For Orthoepy the pupil's ear is not sufficient. The teacher should know how a sound is made and should be able to impart this without undue technicality. Vowels are the most important. In them most delicate shades of difference exist; and it is most necessary to teach pupils where and how they are produced. You may say "Look after vowels, and consonants will look after themselves." If we mispronounce consonants, we are still understood, go where we will; not so with vowels. Most attention should be given to *a*, of comparative rarity in English, common in German. Avoid mistaking *a* for *o* or *ö*. It requires constant attention to keep pupils from this mistake. It should never be allowed to pass uncorrected. Let them learn to note and compare sounds produced in same part of mouth. For final *a*, as in *end', gab',* avoid *end', gab i*, etc., as also *end'a, gab'a*, etc. The proper sound is brief *a* at end of *Cuba, Louisia*, etc.; that is, *end'a, gab'a*, etc. Practically, it is *a*. Watch how *ö* is given, as it is most troublesome: it is *e*, in which lips are most protruded, more than in *i*, which is *e*: (as given by Mr V., the prime, *e*, was not very clear, the mouth-resonant largely dominating the fundamental; the same with *ö* for *ö*). If sounds are not given properly, it is from inattention and laziness on pupil's part. Don't allow inaccuracy to pass unnoticed. An excellent plan is reading texts aloud at home. Never name any letter except by its proper sound—not an affair of little importance. Follow same principles with consonants. After *a*, *ch* is hardest. As a rule, refer sounds to similar ones in pupil's own language by key-words.

WHAT IS THE STANDARD?

Now, a standard must be more or less artificial; that is, it is not spoken except as acquired by an individual. It is not spoken as *ritu* in any district of country. With this explanation, it may be said that the stage is a recognized standard for German. Similar principles come into play as to English—no particular district, as Yorkshire, Devon or London, can be cited as model. All such reflect local peculiarities—always to be considered a taint. The same is true of other tongues still—not of French, fortunate in having a standard. Dubois Reymond was quoted to show that a German savant or nobleman thought nothing of speaking dialect as his flunkey or coachman; yet would be horrified, insulted almost, if told that his French was not Parisian, and that of a French peasant.

Thus, no standard was acknowledged for German. Many consider the stage established as such. Remember that till 1870 there was no central pivot for Germany—no politically united Germany.

Why do we tolerate here a speech not tolerated in England or in Boston and other places in U. S.? Canadian speech was said to be "flat"—more so than that of U. S. We have many bad peculiarities of speech. It is our duty to correct these and whatever else is wrong in a pupil's speech as we meet them. Correction of mispronunciations should be made. They were frequent, often outrageous: as *burl* for *barrel*, and speaking of an old Roman poet as "Hers." Particular attention to the phonetics of our own tongue is the first duty of every school of any grade.

Mr SHAW thought that the University of Toronto was not doing its duty in this respect. The phenomena of speech were part of general physiology—a systematic course of vocal physiology was not only desirable but a crying want for Modern Language students. (Mr Shaw: "Of what good is it?") Of what use is anything? (Lafter.)

Messrs Sykes, Chamberlain, Shaw, Connor, Tamblin, Huston, and two others continued discussion on what is standard speech and certain faults and peculiarities of pronunciation. To the statement that "short" *i* in German approximated *e* more or less, instead of being as well differentiated as our *i* from *e*, (compare *pill* with *peal*, *bit* with *peat*, etc.) Mr. Connor said that in his locality (Berlin, Ont.) where German was the dominant, he found *i* and *e* quite separate, about as widely as in English. The only word with *i* not well given was *business*, always *bes'n'es* instead of *bi'z'nes*.

Dr HAMILTON had given some attention to questions of standard speech. He had concluded to recommend, even to urge, adoption of what he could not better name than

FUSION ENGLISH

by which was meant that current in which fused or mingled Northern with Southern English. Who has not heard London proclaimed as seat of standard speech? Who has not heard that of Dublin urged? If asked to locate it, quite as difficult as in German and for the same reason, he would give "the Midland Counties," approximately the same as educated Dublin, North of Ireland and America. The advent of the Railway Age, to say nothing of Immigration of teeming millions, was producing this. Before advent of railways, fusion of Northern and Southern English was going on for generations.

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