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The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

S U P P L E M E N T

AN APEAL: WHAT REFORMERS SHUD DO.

No one ever thinks of subsisting on air. It is important, but not the only essential of life. A spelling reformer cannot; never has, and never wil liv on air; nor is he helpt by mere criticism and inactivity. It is necessary that he be encouraged and suported by activ, personal and financial, interest in his work. He works not for himself, but for the multitude. His own enthusiasm counts for much; but it never fild his coffers; ofn has emptid them. Sir Isaac Pitman's experience was a striking instance of this. Tho he had the proceeds of his shorthand books to help him, he actually had to mortgage his copyright to obtain financial aid; and only twenty years before deth was the last advance cleard off. Some loans, thru the kindnes and liberality of Sir Walter Trevelyan, wer alowd to laps. What Sir Walter did all can and shud do according to their several ability. To erect a monument, as did the Scots, to Burns, *after* he was ded, was a poor discharge of their responsibility for neglecting him *alive*. "So crucified they the profets" wil ever be adjustabl to the three tenses, past, presnt, future. It shud be, *can be*, otherwise. But

"'T is true, 't is pity, and pity 't is 't is true."

Is this reproach applicabl to spelling reformers? They can remove it.

Men of brains who wil both think (and give *ripe counsel*) as wel as *work* and give *money* ar wanted to bear the burden of this movement. Can any one say that Dr Larison of Ringos and Dr Hamilton of Toronto receiv adequat suport? Neither of these gentlemen ar professional agitaters. They hav their own living to make. Yet as a labor of love (due to strong convictions) they devote much time and *money* to the movement; and for lak of funds ar hamperd in their work. If the readers of *The Journal on Orthoepy and Or-*

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thography and of THE HERALD *wud think for five minuts* of the labors of the editors of these periodicals, to say nothing of their sacrifices, a more generos respons wud result. Some withold suport becaus certn leters, pronunciations or methods ar adopted. Is such reason valid? Absolute agreement cannot be obtaind just yet, especially in a work involving fonetic propaganda. That is coming in time—it is making perceptibl advance by and thru THE HERALD. We must bear and forbear diversity til aproximat acord grows. The best way of bearing is to bear part of the expenses incurd in carying on the work of this reform. Both jurnals ar worthy of wider constituencies. Readers can help to increas their circulations, or asist their editers to place them before educationists.

Certn frends imagin considerabl suport wil be forthcoming when fonography becomes universal. It is a charitabl delusion. Isolated fonografers wil asist; the bulk of them, tho they become as numeros as the sands on the sea-shore, wil not contribute one cent in furtherance of orthographic reform. Fonography is aquired for gain. No selfish man is ever trubld about the advance of any reform. What reason is ther to anticipate beter things from future fonografers when the presnt ones so utterly fail to suport the application of the fonetic principl to orthography? Let fonography spred, and let fonografers increas. I shal rejoice and be glad, but the burden of fonetic reform wil fall on other shoulders. Let ther be no delusion about that. Spelling reformers and educationists must fight the batl. Meanwhile Dr Larison and Dr Hamilton deserv practical sympathy and suport. Give it.

Hetton-le-Hole, Eng.

H. DRUMMOND.

"A SHAME."—When THE HERALD suspended publication a few years ago, *Le Maitre Th nétique* (Feb., 1860) said:

"THE HERALD was a bright litl paper, very large [broad, liberal] in its views (evryone that had anything to say being welcome to use its pages), and wonderfully cheap. It is a shame that it cud not find suporters. The good seed it has been sowing wil stil gro in the end."

THE TRU CONSERVATIV.

Pruning, trimming and retouching are ever accompaniments of growth and progress. Our language has both grown and drifted since early printers in the Tudor period selected wordforms or spelling from average but variant speech of that remote age. HERALD readers (of Jan. 1899) will recall how perplexed Caxton was by the dialects of his day and his quaint but graphic story showing this, and how in his dilemma he sought counsel of a scholar, "Mayster John Skelton late created poet laureate in the university of Oxenford to oversee and correct this said booke." A century after Caxton our wordforms appear in their first stage of fixation with many a *gh* marking gutturals then general (as in *fought, right, eight, night*) but which have dropped out of standard or received speech, though yet heard in dialect. Many more examples of antiquated usage could be cited, but it is not sufficient to point out this class of dead limbs on our language tree and ask is it not high time for them and other such to be trimmed and pruned out of the way? They belonged to the sixteenth century. This is the twentieth. According to Tennyson

"That man's the true conservative
Who lops the withered branch away."

WHAT WE WANT.

Our German co-laborers have published a brief statement of aims, repeated from time to time, with heading *Was Wir Wollen* (What we wish, What we want, What we're driving at). A like synopsis appears necessary here, especially as their problem is different from ours,

Preliminary to revision, it is requisite to note what variant spellings are in respectable and good common use that the better of two or more wordforms be chosen according to principles stated in our platform—rejected forms to die out by disuse. Wordlists of such are issued from time to time under a self-explanatory heading, *Preferred Spellings*.

Revised (or *Amended*) *Spelling* assumes Preferred Spellings. To such Old Spellings as their use produces it applies these rules:

OMIT useless letters; CHANGE (if sounded so) *d* to *t*, *ph* or *gh* to *f*; let *-er* denote agent-nouns.

The spelling on this page exemplifies the result when the rules are applied.

New Spelling is what its name implies—a new set of wordforms that deserves to come into use concurrent with Revised Spelling and gradually supersede it just as decimal money, weights and measures will supplant old, irregular ways of reckoning. New Spelling is *not* simply continued extended or developed Revised Spelling, but instead is a crystallization about a new orthographic center.

Over fifty years of agitation and trial show that the alphabet must grow in future as in past ages by development. Within recent centuries three differentials (*j, u, w*) have been adopted from two (*i, v*) old letters. Like alphabetic increase by three vowel differentials solves the problem. One of them (*u*) comes from the second (*u*) of two *u*'s (*u, u*) long in use. Two other vowel differentials are on the way, while through revival of Anglo-Saxon study an old consonant (*ð*) is forcing itself in, wanted or not.

WHERE ARE WE AT?

Much New Spelling work is done. The summarizing and harmonizing of half a century's work is now in order. The following loom up to view:

(a) Determining the quality of vowels in weak syllables. Hitherto, this has prevailed: "In unaccented syllables use the vowels of common spelling, unless Webster or Worcester plainly give a different sound." (*Phonetic Teacher, June, 1883, p. 64*). That was but provisional and has served its day.

(b) Choosing the preferable one in variant orthoepy where plank 13 will not apply.

(c) Determining the "linguistic habits" of our language. The chief ones should be stated as definitely as platform planks. By them, Orthoepy and Orthography are mutually deducible for most words.

(d) Propagandism.

(e) Compiling a glossary of approved wordforms, and publishing a body of useful literature that eyes may be accustomed to such standard wordforms.

THE ANNUAL OF NEW SPELLING.

[This is a covered pamphlet of 16 to 40 pages, published every September, at 10 c. each (after 1896) or 60 c. a dozen of assorted numbers. Annuals for 1888, 1889, 1899, are about exhausted, and will be furnished as parts of complete sets only at \$2 per set—300 pages of condensed matter, the archives of alphabetic progress from 1884.]

CONTENTS, 1897.

Greeting for new volume—Orthographic Union—The Case Admitted—Fixed Spelling—Ten-Vowel Orthography—SPECIMENS: Sermon on the Mount; Improvement; A Naturalist's Pockets—First Line of Advance (Revised Spelling)—Grades of Letters—Obituary of Sir I. Pitman—News-Notes—Correspondence—Socrates' Prayer—Notes on Words—Good Beginnings—Medical Terms—Obituary of Lindsley—Cosmopolitan English—News-Notes—Pitman Memorial—Caxton's Spelling—'Case' and 'Plea'—Orthoepy and Orthography—Key—Second Line of Advance (syndrom)—Word-Register—Progress in Dialect Work—Another Advocate—Correspondence—News-Notes—SPECIMEN: Lincoln Entering Richmond—Notes on Words—Key.

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