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The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

VOL. II, 45.

TORONTO, CANADA, January, 1909.

№ 95.

EXPLANATION : OMIT useless letters. CHANGE (if sounded so) *d* to *t*, and *ph* or *gh* to *f*. For fuller explanation and Platform see cover of Annual of New Spelling (postpaid, 10 c.) published every July as archives of the year.

WHAT WE STAND FOR.

The spelling of our language is retched, becaus grosly irregular, and misleading.

It shud, and can, be amended along two lines concurrently :

1. Drop all letters utterly useles (often misleading too,); introduce the *changes* as above (simply and redily done); then make a list of words affected. Use of this givs Amended Spelling, quietly to supersede Old Spelling.

2. While this is put into practise, more or les, take the *asured results* of linguistic sience and slowly develop New Spelling, a simpler organic system not misleading. Orthograpy has its own laws and develops new ones as required. This restrictiv caution (as to "asured results") excludes all schemes not wel considerd or "wildcat."

Such New Sp. wil be fixt, wil mirror the literary language, giv receivd orthoepy aproximatly, and can be uzed wherever it proves suitabl, as in teaching pronunciation and how to read Old or Amended Sp., which it shud supersede gradually, the two being long concurrent.

But, beside Spelling, these pages mirror Pronunciation, and that, too, in multiform aspect. To discuss this we must hav some fairly minute speech-Notation—not Spelling at all, and far beyond any such *popular* application. "The problem of riting sounds is fully as important as analyzing them" (Sweet). By its means, thru experiment, observation and comparison with others' conclusions, the "asured results" mentiond above hav been and wil continue to be got til a satisfactory solution of this and other questions is found.

What system of Notation is employd is of litl moment if it but squares with nōn linguistic facts and is powerful to express their multifarios forms simply and lucidly and in harmony with New Spelling so far as developot from time to time. Such Notation is not permanent, but a temporary scaffold to be removed when it has servd its purpose.

TO GET PRINTERS IN LINE.

Systematic eforts wil be made to get a simplified-spelling leag among editors and publishers, that the list of periodicals uzing such spelling may gro. Alredy about 125 publications formaly agree, provided enuf others do. An interesting fact: these lists include the *Chicago Inland Printer*, *St Louis Practical Printer* and *New York Inland Type Foundry Bulletin*, all publisht for and red by printers—remarkabl and gratifying. We uzed to hear that attempts to mend spelling ar sure of defeat by printers' conservatism. These names confirm belief that if the world wer as progressiv as printers as a clas, we shud rapidly get universal use of a spelling rationally simplified.—*Phonographic Magazine*.

NEWS-NOTES AND COMENTS.

—*Birmingham* occurs twice on our p. 192. It is perhaps the best of several spellings, as it is the oldest, being found in *Doomsday Book*. Anglo-French scribes had no difficulty in sounding e before rn. Their desendants sound it redily to this day north of the Humber and in France.

—Beside Norman French this is tru of regular French, German and Italian. Americans (including nativs of Canada) shift er to ar as a rule. Teachers of German and French hav trubl with pupils in this, Americans as a clas especially, for they giv *berg*, *dernier*, etc. as *barg*, *darnye*, etc.

—*The Jur. Or. & Or.* (Nov., 1907) views this as we. Thus to controvert the analogy of other tungs and the uzage of many speakers of our own is a step so serios that we hav not taken it yet. "Lern to speak many words as now speld," is the *Journal's* wise advice. Do not, for exampl, pronounce *fir* as *fur*, *Kerr* as *cur*.

—Rev. E. Lyttelton, hedmaster of Eton, speaking at Clewer, said many English peple no not how to pronounce English. Great efort shud be made, he said, to counteract the London district accent, that spred in circls where least expected. If it spred north, and Yorkshir accent south, what wud hapn when they met, especially if a sound [?] peculiar to Australia was bro't in too.

—General characteristics of Australian speech ar on our p. 79. Mr Black has not reported yet, tho he givs account (*Maitre Phonétique*, 1907, p. 86) of how *he* thinks *he* speaks.

—(1) Filologic experts see the difficulty of reform clearer than any dilettante can. (2) Filanthropists like Mr Carnegie shud endow fonetic reserch and teaching, now a great field for experiments in new methods of spelling. (3) Leav presnt spelling alone til replac'd by one radically difrent on which all agree.

—The three points above ar from Prof.

Sweet's article in *Ill. London News*, copied into *Jur. Or. & Or.* for Nov., 1907. In 1876 we mistakenly surrendered to "experts" who soon weeded out all old and real workers and put figure-heads in their place and waited for the public to follow. The public with languid indifference waited for them to do something. Result, stagnation. Workers, wiser through experience, began again to re-examine details and now show remarkable progress along amended and preferred lines. To stop this would be suicide.

—Philadelphia alone turns out every year many large volumes (Nothnagel's *System of Medicine* has 12 vols of 1000 pages each) and journals in which preferred or amended wordforms are common.

—When our orchard begins to bear such promising fruit, Sweet advises us to cut it down and wait till doomsday for his experts to agree!

—The translator of Nothnagel's second volume, a Dublin man, in the preface disclaims, in true British spirit, responsibility for spelling.

—The *Jarrow Guardian* and *Wallsend Gazette*, controlled by Dr G. B. Hunter of *Mauretania* fame (see page 179), have each half a column of "Orthographic Notes" weekly, in amended spelling. Certain modified forms are used throughout them.

—Mr T. P. O'Connor, M. P., in his Christmas number of *T. P.'s Weekly*, strongly condemns the waste of time and labor incurred in many of the methods of teaching languages.

—Xmas Greeting: With the season's greeting, and may Health's benefaction be yearz. From Mr and Mrs H. Drummond. Hetton, Eng. Patriots arouse les animashon than taxgatherers.

—French Pronunciation has been worked over much the same as Ellis did for English. M. Bonnard and Am. Salmon do it from early times to about 1500; Charles Thurot, from 1500. Their treatises are published by H. Weiler, Paris, who publishes *Atlas Dialectologique de Normandie* by Guerlin de Guer.

LITERATURE.

PHONICS IN OUR [N. JERSEY] PUBLIC SCHOOLS. By Suzan M. Phillips. 10 + 4 pages. Ringos, N. J.

It seems that the sec. of SSB was skeptical as to extensive use of fonic methods of teaching word-analysis and reading in schools. Had he read *THE HERALD* in mid-'80s he might have learned. Fonic and fonetic methods are different roads to one end: to show how far phonics were used in N. Jersey. Miss F., most experienced in both ways, made extensive inquiries of school superintendents and principals. Their encouraging replies appeared in 12-vowel spelling in *Larison's Journal* (May, Oct., '07) of which this is a reprint. In Jersey City

Distinct enunciation and correct pronunciation . . . receive special attention in the primary department. . . . Distinct articulation can be secured only by persistent fonic drill. . . . Defective articulation and pronunciation acquired out of school and habitual can be corrected only by persistent practice and special fonic drills.—P. 9.

OBITUARIES: BOSS, PARKHURST.

HENRY RUSH BOSS, born 19 April, 1835, had cancer of tongue two years, and died at home, Chicago, 8th Dec., '07. He was a prominent printer and proofreader. Mr B. in spare time was a diligent worker, and mine of information, almost a bookworm, in printing and language topics, including the slow and steady amendment of spelling.

Important articles by him on word-division appeared in 1907. Chicago papers published nearly everything he wrote. He published for a time the *Chicago Printer*, also the *Proof Sheet*. Both stopped for lack of support. He worked for years on a *Printers' Lexicon*, compiling it and setting type for it himself, and had it stereotyped to N. He published the *Chicago Proof-Readers' Style-Book*, *Kitchen French*, and *Genealogy of the Boss Family*. In his spelling reform loses a strenuous, intelligent and indefatigable worker of good judgment.

HENRY MARTYN PARKHURST, a cousin of Rev. Dr Parkhurst of New York city, born in 1826 in Framingham, N. H., died at home, Brooklyn, N. Y., 21 Jan. 1908. When young he was a newspaper reporter and court stenographer. He published *The Plowshare* in his own alphabet, a 4- or 8-page 12mo sheet kept going for 119 issues during forty years ending 1889. In it he discussed phonetics, shorthand, astronomy, mathematics and (occasionally) politics. He was deeply interested in astronomy and mathematics, working out and publishing a table of logarithms on a duodecimal basis.

N. J. W.

A REASONABLE CONSERVATIVE.

I rather agree with your remark on p. 189: "Rule I is too sweeping." The two admirably comprehend the 24, and are a good working measure of reform on conservative lines. But to omit all useless (silent) letters gives offense to sticklers for etymology. Could not Rule I read: OMIT useless (silent) letters except when etymologically serviceable? I use *thru* and enjoy its pleasing contrast with clumsy *through*.

Swansea, Wales.

E. L. PONTIFEX.

[Mr P. is a conservative after Bacon:

"Folio Time itself, which indeed innovated greatly, but quietly, by degrees scarce perceived." Construe "OMIT useless letters" to allow retention of etymologic guides. An early form of Rule I was "OMIT letters phonetically useless," but "phonetically" was dropped later, and later still Plank 7 put in our Platform.]

MORE PREFERRED SPELLINGS.

Columbia University, New York city, gives a list of 180 words which its printer is to use. This, though not mandatory to its students, will have that effect. The list is in the class preferred spellings, on a level taken by the Ont. Educa'l Assoc'n in committee in 1900 (see its Proceedings, 1901, p. 43, also our p. 85), and, like these, a selection, not the complete list worked on by Mr Lyon and published by us as far as *bilge*. Up to *bilge* Lyon's list includes all in Columbia's and more, a tribute to his wise thoroughness so far. Beyond *bilge*, we find the following (not found in the 400 on our page 85):

brazen, brazier, bun, bur, catechize, chimera, clue, coeval, colter, criticize, cue, cutlas, deposit, dolor, ecumenical, edile, eon, eponym, era, estivate, ether, etiology, fantasy, fervor, fulfil, glozogram, hematin, hiccup, hock, hypotenuse, instill, maneuver, naturalize, orthopedic, paleography, paleolithic, paleontology, paleozoic, patronize, pedobaptist, pigmy, prenomien, pretermit, primeval, quartet, questor, quintet, recognize, savior, simiter, splendor, succor, sumac, synonym, tabor.

Gram (15 $\frac{1}{3}$ grains) looks too much like *grain* with dotles *i*, a difrence that might be serios in prescriptions.

Altogether, it is encouraging to find a great university thus wake up and come into line with other eforts, tho on a plane so lo as Preferd Spelings.

DIFTHONGIZATION—NORMALIZATION.

Coknified and corupt difthongization of *e*, *o*, shud be discouraged. Eton's hedmaster protests. In north England it is herd only in afected fasionabl talk. I rote Dr Sweet about trying to stereotype *ei*, *ou*, by his own uzage, as wel as the farfetched, incorect pedantries *iy*, *uw*, for *i*, *u*. His anser was only a sneer.

It is almost as important to regulate [*i*. e., normalize] pronunciation as spelling. If each spel acording to his own pronunciation, we shal be soon as unable to comprehend one another as Chinese in difrent parts of their empire.

E. A. PHIPSON.

[Readers shud note two points: 1) Drs Skeat and Sweet, tho they *appear* to agree, uze *ei*, *ou*, difrently. Skeat says:

ei is long close *e* [*they*], with slight after sound of *i* *o* in *no* has the close sound.—*Primer of Etymology*, § 18.

So, Skeat's *ei* = *eⁱ*, *ou* = *o^u*; Sweet's *ei* = *eⁱ*, *ou* = *o^u*. 2) For our *i*, *u*, Skeat uzes (not *iy*, *uw*, at all, but) *ii*, *uu*, meaning the same as our *i*, *u*, as *ii*, *uu*, ar more convenient typografically, tho les tru, than *i*, *u*.

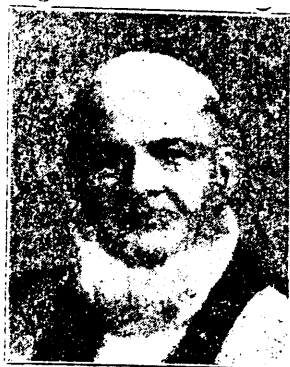
HERALD-Notation is simpler, truer, more potent and redy to express speech facts, than any other Roman one uzed. Jespersen, a foloer of Sweet, says onestly enuf:

difthongization of most long vowels (in *ale* eil, *whole* houl, *eel* iyl, *who* huw) counteracts in some degree the neatnes and evennes of the vowels.—*Growth and Structure of English*, p. 3.

Ellis thruout barely recognizd difthongization of *i*, *e*, *o*, *u*, and, tho a Londoner, oposed. Murray and Skeat recognize but giv no favor. Sweet goes 'hole hog.' Skeat specially comends (see our p. 142) "Italian vowels as tru and distinct [*i*. e., neither difthongized nor nasalized], and may wel be taken as the basis of any reformd system of spelling."

ELLIS AND HIS WORK.

ALEX. J. ELLIS, LL.D., 1814-90, acomplisht much for Pronunciation, including Fonology (historic fonetics) and kindred Prosody, the laws of rythmic or musico-acoustic speech (verse) and song. Lak of space



forbids more than mention of this and what he rote thereon.

In 1859 he discovered in the British Museum two treatises by W. Salebury,¹ publisht 1547,² 1567,³ that gave sound-values to letters for that (Tudor) period, as compared to

Welsh, in which pronunciation, thanks to the conservativ effect of an orthograpy almost fonetic, is scarcely changed even yet. Salebury thus furnisht something to start with. Other treatises wer examind critically from Palsgrave in 1530 (only a generation after Caxton) to date. Sifting immense masses and mases of material was requisit. Few wer competent. Printers from Caxton on setld spelling til 99 percent is fixt. From 1300 to 1500 the language reasumed literary form after the caos caused by the iruption of Norman French at and after the Conquest. Words dond a haf-normal, haf-receivd grafic dres. Before 1500, letter and sound wer in comparativ acord on a Roman-vowel system, circulated and kept fairly uniform by the Church thru its scriptoria and monasteries with their traveling friars. After 1500, printers setld wordforms mecanicly to suit their convenience, making selections arbitrary, often unwise becaus without counsel and attention to the previos system. This and shifting orthoepy explain caos in spelling now.

In 1867, apeard Bell's *Visible Speech*, a new Notation on a fysiologic basis. Ellis with this tool began to work Orthoepy—Prosody too—bak to the dark ages. Bell's symbols wer not adapted to print; for this Ellis devised Palaeotype, a Notation on a Roman- or Latin-vowel basis, extending it as he went on, uzed in *Early Eng. Pronunciation* with special reference to Shakspear and Chaucer, 5 parts, 1869-89, 2400 condentst pages (cited as *EE Pron.*) A sixth part, a summary, he did not liv to issue. For popular purposes he devised a simpler notation, Glossic, in English vowel-values, twelv ful ones (*i*, *i*, *e*, *e*, *a*, *a*, *o*, *o*, *o*, *o*, *u*, *u*) and weak neutral ([^] or [^]), uzed in *Eng. Dialects*, their Sounds and Homes, 1890.

¹ Born in Denbi(gh)shir in north Wales, he studied in Oxford and setld in London.

² A Dictionary in Englyfhe and Welfhe whereunto is prefixed a litle treatyfe of the englyfhe pronounciation of the letters. London.

³ A playne and familiar Introduction, teaching how to pronounce the letters in the Brytish tongue, now commonly called Welsh. London.

Other works ar: *Speech in Song*, 1878; *Pronunciation for Singers*, 1877; *Quantitative Pron. of Latin*, 1874; *Eng., Dionysian and Hellenic Pron. of Greek*, 1876; *Phonetics in Chambers' Encyclopedia*, 1890; and *Speech Sounds in Encyclopedia Brit.*, 1887.^{1 2}

As to Prosody we quote from Omond:³

In the '70s a prosody really new, after some false starts, fairly began. Helmholtz's reserches, made accesibl to English readers by Ellis' translation in 1875, had laid bare the nature and work of "tones" that create verse among other forms of vocal music; Bell, by his *Visibl Speech*, first gave a Notation to express any articulat sound. Blding on such foundations, English and continental scolars atakt *de novo* questions of metric rythm. Ellis, then pres't of Philologic Soc'y, led the way. In its *Transactions* ar papers by him, professors Skeat, Mayor, Sweet and others.—Page 166.

Helmholtz's work referd to was *Tonempfindungen*, translated by Ellis as *Sensations of Tone*.⁴ Omond says farther:

In all that affects individual syllabls Ellis is a master. . . . In scansion he adhered to the orthodox *foot* (which he preferd to call a *mesure*) insted of rekonng altogether by accents; but he tho't Clasic names [of mesures] both "misleading" and "utterly insufficient." He "found it of great practical advantage to speak of a *strong* syllabl, quite independently of the origin [elements?] of its strength." With most riters that practical advantage wud be apt to acompany evasion of tru analysis.

Ellis did invaluable work as to details—work that shud hav exploded some antique falacies—tho he left much to be done to perfect a general conception of verse. . . . If his erly devotion to mathematics left traces on both his matter and styie, they ar not unwelcome in regions where clear thinking is somewhat a stranger. As a prosodian . . . his place is high. He did much and suggested more. For the most part, subsequent English prosody has progres along lines markt out by him. Where fruitful, it draws fertility from his ideas, from his way of regarding the subject; where these ar neglected, it remains steril and unprofitabl.—*Ibid.*, pages 172-3.

Some one (extremely few ar competent) o't to rite an apreciativ biography of Ellis. His noble verse (the lines on *Truth* appear on our p. 52), too, deserves collection and preservation. He took his B. A. degree in regular course with mathematical onors

¹ We barely mention here *Essentials of Phonetics*, 1848; *Basis of Music*, 1862. Their matter receivd fuller treatment in later works.

² To help them who consult Ellis' works, we giv a transliteration, each for each, of his symbols for the twelv ful vowels mentiond. In Palaeotype: i, i, e, e and e, æ, ø and æ, a, o and o, u, u; for the weak neutral, ø and ø, but he says: "I do not really distinguish unstrest ø and ø" (*EE Pron.*, part v, p. 80*). In Glossic: ee, i, ai, e and ae, a, u and uu, aa, au, o, oa, oo; for the weak neutral he had u with brev above, but says, in speaking of *sofa, idea*, etc.: "final unaccented a in a large number of words is pronounced precisely as u." (*Pron. for Singers*, p. 54). For the same twelv NED has i, i, e, e, æ, ø(r) and v, a, q', q and o, o, u, u. For them the *Standard Dictionary* has i, i, ê, e, a, u and ū(r, a, ø, e, o and ō, u, ū.

³ *English Metrists in 18th and 19th Cent's*, being a sketch of English prosodic criticism during 200 years. Cloth, 274 pages 12mc, Frowde, 1907.

⁴ as a Physiologic Basis for the Theory of Music, over 800 dubl-colum pages exclusiv of Index, Preface. Longmans, 1875, 36s. 2d edition 1885.

(driling a logical mind in "acurat tho't") from Cambridge in the '30s. Late in life his alma mater gave an onorary LL.D., in robes of which our cut (loand by *Phonographic Magazine*, Cincinnati) shows him.

In provisional New Speling.]

COKNI SPICH.

Amang ðe werld-rvilz ðat enthuziasts tel as edyucesion wil infalibli du awē, sez The London Globe, iz ðat penful and ineksplicabl misteri, ðe Cokni twang. It iz remarkabl ðat ðe Cokni habit ov pronaunsing e az ai or ai iz mach mōr comon amang yang ðan midl-ējd. Amang veteranz it iz hardli nōn. Wan can to'k tu averej Landon werkingmen ov 60 or 70 wiðaut detekting ðe slaitest laps intu ðis distresing habit; indrd ði ōld Landon werkingman to'ks veri often in ðe grand stail, wið a digniti ov rōling silablz and enansiesion singlarli clir. Amang ðe midl-ējd ðe twang iz nōtisabl, in ðe yang it iz obvios in evri werd ðe ater. Pre-saisli ðe sem iz tru ov ðe Sauth Landon aksent; it iz not in ði ōld sabarban rezident, bat in hiz sanz and dōterz, ðat wi detekt ði rvil. From ðis it wud sim ðat twang and aksent ar ov risent grōth, and ðat ðe preznt bōrd scūlz ar pauerles tu arest ðer progres. Mr Samyuel Weller had trabl wið w'z, clipt 'wud' intu 'ud,' and sed 'coz' for 'becoz.' Hi never spōk ov a "li-dy" nor sed "abahyt" (laidi, lady; abait, abate). ði orijin ov ðis modern twang iz hard tu determin; ðe grēt thing iz tu arest its grōth befōr it becamz yuniversal. —*Toronto Globe*, 30 Aug., 1902. [Sach bōrd scūlz ar impotent tu cōp wið ðe disiz becōz ðe hav no Niu Speling tu point tu az reflekting resrvd pronansiesion; for ðis, "a standard ever befōr men'z aiz," az Prof. L. sez on aur p. 192, and hwich Niu Speling givz, wud abolish ði rvil. Ōld Speling, pointing tu no standard, permits ði rvil tu go on, and so iz an indirekt coz ðerov. A similar sprch-disiz, ðo not paralel tu Cokni, iz ðe Baueri daialect in and araud Niu York siti. It spredz anchekt, sins ðer iz az yet no accepted Niu Speling ðat scūlz can yūz az a norm "ever befōr men'z aiz," az an olternetiv tu carent speling. Sach norm, a raf aproksimet tu resrvd pronansiesion, iz ði ōnli barier ðat wi no ov laikli tu br efektiv tu ðat end.]

KEY: ð e i a ō ū oi ai au iu
as in they see us old rule oil aisle owl few
(Marking o or u is unnecessary in open syllabls.)

THE HERALD is publisht (with misionary object) in Jan., April, July, Oct., at 25 Bellevue av., Toronto, Canada. SUBSCRIBE AND DISTRIBUTE in letters, in scools, privatly in a hunderd ways: 8 copies to one adress, 25 cents a year in advance. Yur influence to extend circulation is solicited.