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The Fonetic Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND REVISED SPELLING.

2ND YER.

PORT HOPE, CANADA, OCT., 1886.

N^R 18.

ONTARIO.—At midsumr meeting of Ont. Teachers' Assoc'n a comitee was appointed on Revised Speling to report next year. It consist of Messrs Strang, Dixon, Cambel Hughes, Houston, Hendry and Alexander. Mr Strang is hed master of Goderich Collegiat Institute; Mr Alexander is connected with (alt scools; the others ar Torontonians. . . . The Toronto *Globe*, the most widely circulated daily in Canada has recently begun dropping *u* from ending *our*. It also practises Revised Sp. in some other words, as *jail* for *gaol*, *wagon* insted of *waggon*, etc. . . . *Grip*, the humorus paper of Canada, antedated the *Globe* in emancipation from thraldom of *our*. A few sheets stil practis the fosil endings and other orthografy to correspond. All amendment by newspapers is clear gain as peopl unconsciously adopt what is seen to prevail. Newspapers ar most efectiv educators. All of us shud urge use of Amended Sp. in the pres, so far as we hav oportunity and influence. . . . Mr Tomas Bengof publishes the *Cosmopolitan Shorthand* at Toronto and thereby ably helps disseminate Fonografy. He also says that he f.a.v.o.u.r.s (H) Simplified Sp. As the *Shorthand* practises antiquated speling Mr B. is justly taken to tak for this by the *Shorthand Writer* of Chicago itself a model practiser of what it preaches. It is a poor way to help temperance as Snooks does—gets drunk. Mr B. blames i ll on the printer whom he has dismiss al. . . promises amendment. We shal see.

SWEDEN has a S. R. A. not yet six months old yet numbering more than 1000 members. Prof. Noreen of Upsala is president. The contribution is 28 cts. a year. Its organ, the *Nystavaren*, apers monthly. Prof. Storm, of Christiana, is probably the greatest fonetician and most accomplisht linguist living. He speaks English and Italian quite like a nativ; French, German, Spanish, etc., nearly so. He has practical noledge of all Romance and Germanic languages, with 200 Norwegian dialects!

—*Dr J. H. Worman*, directr of the sumr scools at Round Lake, N. Y., is aranging for a grand convention of educationists of U.S. and Canada at Montreal in July '87. Friends of Sensibl Speling shud be there, and "put their oar in" too.

SHAKESPERE S works ar comonly in modernized orthografy. Those objectors who profes to prefer to read their dear old Shakespere in the original ar apt to forget this. We giv sampls from title pages publishd during his life-time:—*The true cronicle of Kyng Henrie the Eighth*, "wythe the costlie coronation of Queen Anne Bulleyne, the cunninge of Cardinal Woolsey; wythe his disgrace and deathe; wythe the birthe and chrystianing of our gracious princess Elizabethē. [1597.] Also *The true and wonderfull chronicle, historie of "Leare Kyng of Englande."* wythe *hys lyfe and deathe, wythe the unfortunate lyfe of Edgar, heire to the Earle of Gloster, and hys sullen and assumed humour of Tom a Bedlame.* [1598, 1608.] It is plain that orthografy has improved since.

AN INTERNATIONAL FONETIC ASSOCIA'N has been propozd as we lern from privat lettr. It is likely to take form in a year or two. Its leading ideas ar likely to be these two: 1. The study and advancement of general fonetic siense and the acurat representation of "the best" pronunciation of evry trng and its principal dialects. 2. Practical aplication of this theoretic noledge to teaching orthoepy of diferent tungs. Revision of orthografy wil probaby not—o't not at least—engage the general associa'n. That shud be left to national asoc'n each for it own language—the general associa'n cud chek want of harmony. Its hed-quarters shud be on continent of Europ where a great many speak two or three languages and where linguistica is in a more practical way than in Britan or with us. The idea appears to hav sprung from the succes of teaching English by fonetic method in France, the query then arising why not aply the principl generaly?

CORRESPONDENCE

[The first three parts of criticism and reply before refer to thegraphy of Knudsen's Dictionary of which we have mentioned on page 69.]

I.—"A SIGN FOR EACH SOUND"

SIR.—Some of the work is what I and all other the ongoing sp. reformers must regard as egregiously mistakes of judgment as well as of theory. I mention particularly the use of digraphs for simple sounds, as th, o' ng, sh, i', u', etc. They are not philosophically foretold—"a sign for a sound"—to be, and cannot be expected to be permanent, both because of their unsustained character and of the unnecessary labor they impose upon the writer. The system can never be accepted and practised in writing, because of the riting two letters for one sound and of the greatly increased number of marks, apostrophes, etc. It is folly to waste time on mere temporary substitutes for what must eventually be adopted. *Los Angeles, Cal., Aug., '86.* ELIAS LONGLEY.

II.—"NO NEW LETTERS"

SIR.—The important question that divides Sp. Reformers is this: *Are any new letters necessary?* The majority in England answer: "Not at all, yes, practically, no." Some time ago the Eng. S. R. A. invited specimens of reforming spelling from all quarters. About 100 specimens were received in response. Of these, about 27 only could be printed with available types; of these 27, only three or four adopted any new letters. Members were invited to mark such of these 27 specimens as seemed worthy of further consideration. The result was that well-known Pitman's new letter scheme had majority of votes, the aggregate number of votes given for aul the present letter scheme was three or four times the number for aul new letter scheme. The scheme without new letters differed little from that which could easily be amalgamated.

Let me urge mutual toleration. We cannot pass a rigid Act of Uniformity. No man has any right to claim to be an infallible keeper in this business and to say it must be done in this way and no other. I would like to see something of this sort: Set out aul the letters on which everybody or nearly everybody is agreed: I think there would be very little difference as to 30 out of 40 sounds.—Then admit two or more symbols for remaining sounds. At this stage, let us not commit ourselves forever for or against this or that symbol, but let there be liberty for aul. Let the fittest survive. *Liverpool, Eng., Aug., '86.* EDW. JONES.

[If agreement on 30 symbols be so readily possible, our three correspondents J., K., and L., are not so far apart. With 30 signs our sp. would be more regular than that of any other living tongue. . . . For key to Mr Jones' sp. see p. 62; for that of Mr K. below see p. 63.—Mr K. now prefers the turned period (·) instead of apostrophe as a distinguisher: a · a · e · i · i · j · e · o · o · u · u · art at ale ell eel ill l · or · no · us · put · do · The scheme has merit. It is the product of profound thought and earnest work. It deserves greater consideration than it has yet received. It has the following merits in our opinion: (1) a is used in accord with cosmopolitan use, viz., for vowels in *at* and *art*; for a, *besi* as its general sound as in *art*, has a secondary use as in *er* in English, French and Danish, as also exceptionally (to our ear) in Italian (examp. *felicità*). (2) in like manner, u is in accord with cosmopolitan usage. (3) a separate letter for vowel in *ale*. Altho other things may use e for both *ell* and *ale*, we cannot do so. We must (4) have an e shape like K's or that of Eng. S. R. A., or else an e-shape like that so far employed by us. (5) a separate sign for v. in *isk*. Whether it

be \dot{v} , \ddot{v} or \tilde{v} appears not essential but matter of detail or taste in which the fittest should survive—so with \dot{u} , \ddot{u} , \tilde{u} , or \tilde{u} . (6) This \dot{u} is used for 'yu' or 'yu'—with doubtful propriety in beginning words. Weak points: (1) vowel in *est* needs its own sign as *English*.—fully with v. in *alc*.

why they receive different treatment. (2) The question v. in *up* deserving to pair with v. in *no*. The inventor of Phonography *allows* it from motives of expediency. Mueller instructs (*Science of Lang.*, vol. II, p. 132.) that when stress is removed on a vowel, every vowel tends to become v. in *up*. Thor being like degree of openness in them helps to their enforst union. They shud be d'vorst. (ii) vowels in *oz* does not pair with *ort*—second heirloom of Phon.—but with *ort*. Herein of course we refer to *vowel*, not to *spelling* in other tongues. (iv) the first vowel in *purpose* getting its own sign seems superfluous—if not, turned e (e) will do.—[Editor.]

III.—"A MIDL COURSE: AVOID EXTREMES."

DR. R. SIR.—Alou mi tu anser both bj stating hwj dhe sistem ov i-dher ov dhi z earnest Sp. Reformers, Jones and Longley, cud not bi fully adopted in dhe "Pronouncing and Spelling Dictionary."

TU' LITL OR TU' MOCH IS AN I'VEL.

Tu avoid dhis recwirs an amount ov nolej and wizzard hwich fu men, if eni, hav atand. Mj co-operators cud not agri upon i-dher ov dhe tu' opozing sistems. For bj Mr Jones' "No ny letters" wi shud hav tu uz dhe letters in so bongling a manner dhat dhe child's sound ri zing wud bi discorjd.—Dhe fact ov yzing dhe sam sijn dabl for a sound cwit diferent from dhat fer hwich wi uz dhe sijn singl, az in *moon* and *not. eel* and *el*; and yzing veri diferent sjns for sounds hwich ar aljk, az *not* and *naut, men* and *main*; is a consejshon on-nesessari and a co z dhat li'ds dhe child's mind from simp: lojical ri zing.

Dhe improprjeti ov yzing djgrafs for \dot{z} and \dot{u} in English is stated in dhe Pronouncing and Spelling Dictionary p 376, 375.

Dhe sistem insisted on bj Mr Longley; "A sijn fer a sound," dhat is meni (19) ny letters; givs tu dhe printed paj so stranj an apirans dhat ti chers and scu'l e-theritis, as well as English ri'ders in general ar repolst from making eni atemt tu bi familiar with dhe sistem, so uz tu apri shiat its ecseleus.—Dhis fitur gratli diminishes dhe probabiliti ov its introducsion.

Dhe sistem, besjds bring expensiv and combros in dhe printing ofis, on dhe tiprjter, and in dhe us ev a manual alfabet, is tur radical a chanj frem comon print, tu bi desjrabl.

Wi dharfor the't it beter tu felo a midl cours bj adopting a fu (5) ny letters, and so prezerv dhe present apirans ev dhe printed paj az moch az practicali foneticali. Dhe sistem wi hav empleid is az consistant as eni dhat has bin propozd. Dhe retension ov h as a medijer in ch, dh, sh, th and zh has bin favorod bj most Spelling Reformers as a wjz expidient tu giv a familiar luk tu dhe words; and dhi z djgrafs serv ni'rii az wel az ny letters.—Dhe arbitrari mark (tongus) empleid tu indi-

cat leng vowels is a contrivans uzd by Mr Alex. M. Bell and by a number ov S. Reformers; it givs simplisiti tu dhe sistem, and hwen uzd acedding tu dhe givn ru'l, it wil net ce 'z so stran; a luk tu dhe words az wud nu letters.

Dhe sistem has az moch probabiliti ov intrudochon az eni dhat has bin propozd and is wel su'ted fer its intended propos. *S. Norwalk, Conn., Sept., '86. C.W. Knudsen.*

IV.—TEACHING LANGUAGES.

SIR.—Yu no I was sent hither by the French government to report on the proceedings of the third northern Filological Congres. Besides the acquisition of *spoken* Swedish, it appeared oportune to help on the mooted International Phonetic Assoc'n. After conference with our friends Western (Frederikstad, Norway), Lundell (Ups-la), and Jesspersen (Copenhagen), it was decided to introduce the matr in the pedagogic section where a Mr Drake was to lecture on the practical study of language. Accordingly, after the lecture (on 12th Aux.), I was askt that disoussion be put off to the next morning; and then Prof. Lundell open- fire by setting down 4 propositions whic' fairly represent the position of the yung fonetic school:

1. A language shud be studid at first not in its rita form, but in its living and spoken form; therefore, texts shud be used in which the language is rita as it is sp-ken. [This general stateme't of soures includes the particular case exhorting children to read their own tung—especially a libabl to English wherein the spoken and rita (old spelling) forms so very badly correspond.]
2. Translations shud be suprest, or, at least, redukt to a minimum, being replast by explanations in which the language is made to explain itself and by more ours ry reading.
3. Connected texts, not disconnected sentences, shud be used in teaching.
4. Gramer shud be t-ut from the texts, not as a didactic whole; a more systematic study to be made later on, or in revision.

Lively disoussion ensued, in which Professors Storm, Lundell, Noreen, with Messrs Western, Jesspersen, Sturzenbecker, Palmgren and myself joined. It occupied three ours. With no decision on the second point, the three others war earid by large majority. Forthwith, notice was stuk up in the lobby of the Congres hous, inviting all friends of reform to join in forming the Scandinavian Assoc'n for reform of language-teaching. A goodly number ar already on list. The Society wil soon meet to fix its constitution. Its promoters intend to join hands with our Paris Fonetic T. Assoc'n. *Stockholm, Sweden, Aug., '86. P. Passy.*

PHONETICS may be defined as the science of speech-sounds.

READING.—In the bienial report of schools for this county, the inspector, Mr W. E. Tilly, M. A., says that in reading

Before leaving a lesson, the words shud be instantly recognized when pointed out, and redily re- lvd into their elementary sounds. Correct! Ability to giv the elementary sounds is the only test of acurat pronunciation. He who cannot giv them mumbles and mouths his words. What the sounds ar shud be definitely specified, instild and practist from the first—best effected by a *sound* system. Reference to dictionary is troublesome, ofn puzzling and unsatisfactory, while the tutor cannot eternally hamar it in.

OUR EXCHANGES.

The Shorthand Writer is a neat monthly publisht at Downer's Grove, a suburb of Chicago Ill. It is devoted to spreading Taehygraphy, a fonetic system of shorthand—\$2 a year. Its interest for us is chiefly in the Revised Speling which it employs. That is thruout about the same as in our colums altho it says very littl about it—believing exampl betr than precept. We mention its orthograpy only to comend in general We dout advisability of leaving *y* out of *might, right, etc.* In *mihl, rihl, etc.*, we introduce an expedient which is new to our language altho comon in German. We refer to the use of *h* as denoting that preceding vowel is modified. In *zehr, h* indicates to a German that *e* is to hav a sound. We cannot recall a solitary instance in which we make use of *h* to modify *z* or any vowel so that it is an altogether new expedient. It is easier to introduce a new letr. The latr is more efectiv and is finel comparativly while a new expedient implies farther change—itsel an evil. We must hold to the 6th of the principls givn from *Home Journal* on p. 36—tantamount to *No new expedients.*

The Guide to Shorthand Systems, publisht bimonthly by D. P. Lindsly at 817 N. 45th St., Philadelphia, Penn., employs *f* for *ph* thruout except at begining of proper names of persons and places. This is wel as to do otherwise wud thro names out of alfabetic order in indexes, directoris, etc. An *f* is permisibl in latr part of Philadelphia, but not at begining. This change of *f* to *ph* in general is comendabl for all to start with. Price of *Guide*, 50 c. a year.

Notes and Queries is publisht monthly at \$1 a year by Gould and Bro., Manchester, N. H. It is devoted to ansrs to all sorts of questions on all imaginabl matrs. It is exceedingly interesting and most instructiv. Articles or notes in Revised Sp. ar inserted occasionally in its pages.

—*Accent*, or stres of voice, in most European languages, is not thrown so exclusively on a singl syllabl as in English: consequently unaccented syllabl ar pronounst more distinctly than by us. This is especially tru of French, Italian and Spanish. As we put so much stres on one syllabl, it foloes that other syllabl in the word ar substrest and so hav the qualitis of their vowels made more or les indistinct or "obscure." With us then ther is more difficulty as to unaccented syllabl than in most other languages.

LITERATURE.

GEOGRAPHY: by C. W. Larison, M. D., part I., the Orient. 12mo, pp. 208. Fonic Publishing House, Ringos, N. J. Price, 75 c.

Besides primers and early reading books for teaching to read by pronouncing methods, a want is felt for text-books in the elementary subjects—in none more than in geography in which pronunciation of the names of places forms a stumbling block. When an ordinary treatise on geog tries to give orthoepy of proper names it as a rule leaves both pupil and tutor worse confounded than before. This is due to attempting to denote pronunciation by old 5-vowel alphabet to which it is wholly inadequate. We suppose considerations like the above have induced Dr L., who is principal of Academy of Science and Art at Ringos N. J., and formerly professor of Natural Science in the university at Lewisburg, Pa., to produce this volume, which is well printed on excellent paper. Not only are the names of places given in pronouncing orthography, but the book is printed throughout in an alphabet with 13 vowel signs, thus:

Sound a a e e i i o o u u
 az in art at ale alle eel it l or ox no up put do
 A pupil, then, while ostensibly learning geography, is learning pronunciation or else is having mispronunciation corrected and that without any necessary supervision by the tutor—two birds killed with one stone. It is a careful synopsis of geography having these advantages superadded and supplies a want long felt by all educators. We wish for a little more care in expunging printers' errors and that some more or less acknowledged standard in orthoepy had been followed. A general adherence to Webster appears implied, but personal preferences crop out. We hope the second part, which is to deal with western hemisphere, and a second edition of the first, will lack these defects. In orthoepy, as in astronomy, there must be elimination of the *personal equation*. Departures from an accepted standard should be made on well defined and generally approved principles. On page 152 we read:

The Plan of Hungary, or of the Upper Dan'ub, is rolling, well watered and fertile; the Plan of Bohemia, drained by the Elbe, is well drained and fertile; the Plan of Galishia, drained by the Dniester, is rich in quality of soil.

The observant reader will notice that *e* is given as vowel in *the*: that a single sign is used for *ny*; that single type digraphs are used; that in *soil* *oi* is used where *oi* would be expected, that *a* is frequently found; that there is great similarity between the above alphabet and that of Vickroy's *Matthew* as given page 60, as also ours to denote pronunciation with secondary resemblance to that of Knudsen—harbinger of ultimate accord; that *y* marks long or short is used as alternative for *v*, in *ill* or *isle* respectively. The comma under *c* is employed to denote sound *s*; *us* also dotted *g* to denote a soft *g* or *j* sound (after Webster). Examples, rec. civil, danger, geography. Such marks let us make greater resemblances to present shapes of words. Whether use of such is desirable is an open question.

THE TENTING SCHOOL: a Description of the Tours taken and Field-Work done by Class in Geography in Academy of Science and Art at Ringos, N. J., during 1882, by C. W. Larison, M. D. 12mo pp. 292. Ringos, N. J. 1883. Price 75 cents.

This book published by its author, while interesting for its more descriptive of New Jersey, is to us still more so because printed in old spelling in a system of diacritics—Websterian marks nearly. Some five or six years ago Mr C. P. Simpson of Leamington, Ont., published a like system. Dr L. appears to have abandoned his for that in his Geography—a great advance in our opinion. It thus marks a stage of development. Marked letters still used by him are rudiments of this early stage. With a little farther advance he will about "hit it."

O U G H.

'Tis not an easy thing to show
 How o u g h sounds, since though
 An Irish tough and English slough
 And cough and hiccough, all slow,
 Differ as much as tough and through
 There seems no reason why they do.

Mr C. H. Ames writes from Boston to *Jur. Am. Orthoepy*: "That every syllable contains a vowel cannot be sustained except by quibbling in definition of a consonant, because all continuant consonants would have to be called vowels to establish such a law. The liquids and nasals [*l, r, m, n, ng*] are continuants, i. e. their proper sound can be prolonged indefinitely without a vowel. Hence any one of them can make a syllable by itself after a mute." This agrees with Phye's statement on page 28, and with Prof. Skeat's on page 60.