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The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELING.

3^D YEAR.

TORONTO, CANADA, Mar., 1887.

N^o. 23.

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HERALD for 1885, bound, (postpaid) 25c.; ditto, 1886 0 25
 Adres TH^E HERALD, 125 Harbor St., Toronto. Foren Stamps
 taken.

—Jespersen, øv Copenhagen, haz propozd j fer Frensh j; we hav yuzd j, dotles j; hwil j iz tu be found.

—Vikrøi sez: "J and Ch ar peculjyar consonants..... Sum regard them az compoundz, but the ar purli elementeri in American spech and demand definit sīnz." Our obzerveshun agrez with the latr statment.

—From a cørespondent: "The alfabet yuzd in HERALD maks les chenj in the printed pej than eni uthər sen so far. Yu sa that o, e and i, ar capabl øv impruvment. Ee, with hwich yu began, iz preferd tu Ee. It iz ølwaz dezīrabl tu hav capitl and loer cas letrz alk. E iz a gud loer cas ferm, and, lik øl nu, sheps, wud be impruvd øn cuming intu jeneral yus. E iz ølredi a familjar script ferm fer old letr E, and iz wel enuf fer script. Pitman yuzez e fer e, hwich iz wurs stil. Besīdz, e iz wun øv the indented fermz, hwich ar øl ugli." Uther indented fermz ar Ōō, Ø, and Uu.

— Ph FOR F is absurd enuf. Let ph be used generally for f and the absurdity and waste of time and space becomes convincing. A new paper started out west under difficultis. It tels its own story as folos: " We begin the publication of the Roccy Mountain Cyclone with some phew diphiculties in the way. The type-phounders phrom whom we bought our outphit phor this printing øphphice phailed to supply us with any øphs or cays, and it will be phour or phive weex bephore we can get any. The mistaque was not phound out till a day or two ago. We hav ordered the missing letters, and we will have to get along without them till they come, We don't lique the loox of this variety øv spelling any better than our readers, but mistaix will happen in the best øv phamilies, and iph the ph's and c's and x's and q's hold out we shall ceep (sound the c hard) the Cyclone whirling aphter a phasion till the sorts arrive. It is no joque to us—it's a serious aphphair."

ENGLISH AS SHE IS SPELT.

The squaw of a chief of the Sioux
 Eloyed with a red-headed Jioux;
 The pair in Dubuque
 The husband ørteruque,
 And this made a nice how-dioux-yioux-dioux.
 —Wait.

EXERCISE IN PRONUNCIATION.—The *National Educator* says:—If yu think yur Pronunciation is perfect, try the folowing words. Pronounce them and then look in Webster's Dictionary. It is likely yu hav mispronounst haf of them. Do not take it by ges. Look for the pronounciation of each word.

Err, coffee, courtesy, excise, vendue, off, humor, Philemon, docile, Italian, dumb-founded, vagary, vicar, era, caret, construe, exhale, vary, okra, lyceum, double-quick, eh, amateur, ere, turbine, communist, exhaust, courier, decorous, valet, indissoluble, wont (custom), drama, eighteen, millionaire, extant, carbine, courtier, exit, courant, usurp, eyrie, probity, ornate, bronchitis, ducat, complaisance, coadjutor, gladiolus, courteous, errata, mistletoe, culture, piquant, Uranus, exquisite, squalor, divert, formidable, leisure, dumbwaiter.

A Cross here indicates that your subscription is in arrears. Please remit.

LINES OF ADVANCE.

For *Popular* use, we believe that the form most recommendable is:

REVISED SPELLING: 1. OMIT every useless letter. 2. CHANGE *d* to *t*, *ph* to *f*, *gh* to *f*, if sounded so.

There is no use trying to give a larger dose than will be swallowed. Revised Sp., named from analogy with the Revised Version, and, so, readily understood by people generally, is quite advanced enough for them, if not too much so, judging by its tardy acceptance. This is spelled according to the rules above.

For *Educational* stage we give an orthography explained by:

KEY: a e e e i i o o u u u
az in art at alo ell eel it I or ox no up put do

An example is furnished by "Keep Pegging Away." To this stage we are not yet in position to do full justice typographically. With a few new shapes, it could be made very much more presentable. Time, but especially money, will remedy that. Making such allowances, the specimen is open to criticism, but only as to vowels. No solution of the problem is attempted as to consonants. We believe it adapted to school purposes—a half-way stage between the Popular and Scientific stages, suitable for most school purposes, as the orthoëpic, yet not as scientific as to be wholly beyond popular use.

Mr. Jones' Comparison of Schemes was mentioned last month. For such comparison we submit the sample "Keep Pegging Away." Revised Sp. is also hereby submitted to him. It is for Popular use only.

For *Scientific* use, as for filologic and other purposes, a more complete notation is needed. We hope to see the latter decided on by year 1900.

CHICAGO TO THE FRONT.—A meeting of Comisioners of U. S. Phonetic Co. was held last evening at the Grand Pacific Hotel. It was announced that a charter had been obtained for the above company with a capital of \$200,000, divided into twenty thousand shares of \$10 each, all of which had been subscribed. Object: To encourage, promote, and advance the education of children in science of fonetic spelling invented by Chas. A. Story, and to establish a school for proper teaching of the science. The following directors were elected last evening: For three years, Gen. A. L. Chetlain and C. S. Squires; for two years, J. S. Kendall and C. A. Story; for one year, G. Bradley, S. W. King, and E. L. Barber. The officers chosen were: President, J. S. Kendall; Vice-presidents, F. G. Bradley and S. W. King; auditor, C. S. Squires; secretary and treasurer, C. S. Story. The company will at once begin the work of establishing a school in Chicago.—*Chicago Times*.

LITERATURE.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE TRIAL OF THE LETTER Y, *alias* Y, London, 1765.

This was ritin by Thos. Edwards, who livd 1699-1757. We are indebted to Mr. J. D. Barnett, Port Hope, for opportunity to peruse. It seems that, "once on a time," the letter I felt much aggrieved because a certain Greek fellow, named Y, *alias* Y, was supplanting him, the said I, from many words in which he had the better right, I stirred up a rebellion among the other letters of the alphabet. The others, when their attention was called to it, found they had grievances too, each complaining of his own neglect and his neighbors' encroachments. They had a terrible row.

"It was not much inclined to have matters examined into, for fear lest he should be degraded into a simple aspiration, but was at last prevailed on to join in petition by P and T with whom he was in coalition in governing some provinces and they told him they were all equally in danger of being supplanted by Greek ϕ and θ , who, as they were credibly informed, were come over *incognito* for that purpose."

The reference is to *ph* and the two *ths* or the two sounds represented by *th* in *then* and in *thin*.

"The whole alphabet having at length agreed, some through fear, some through private pique, and others from public views, a petition was signed, and Apollo fixed a day for the hearing."

The trial is exceedingly interesting. It shows that long ago they had a clear idea of the use of many letters. Had they then re-vised the use of letters we would have less need of it now. We quote parts of the evidence:—

"The petition of S to be restored to his place in *defence*, *pretence*, etc. (words derived from surnames of Latin words in DO) which the letter C had unreasonably taken from him. Granted."

"The complaint of O against U for intruding into the words *Honour*, *Labour*, *Superiour*, *Governour* and the like.

"The Judge discharged U with a reprimand from the final syllable of all words from the Latin ending *OR*; but, as for *Governor*, he said they neither of them had anything to do there, it being a substantive formed immediately from the word *govern*, and therefore he assigned that province to E, and ordered him to take possession both in that and all such words.

"A petition from N praying that G might be excluded from the words *Foreign* and *Sovereign*. Upon hearing the petition read, A immediately joined in it, and begged that both E and I might be banished from these words, and himself admitted in their room. For the latter word he bro't the authority of Milton, who spelt it *soveran*, and insisted that the other being derived from Latin *Foraneus*, he had the same equitable claim to it. G, on the other side, maintained that both words were originally formed from REGNVX : SVPER REGNVX and FORIS REGNO ; and, therefore, if any letter should be banished, it should be I.

"Apollo said he had very great respect for his beloved son Milton, and would take time to consider the case. Meanwhile, people should be at liberty to spell those words which way they liked best. But he was observed to smile rather contemptuously at G's absurd assumption."

It is in this way that most of the much-vaunted claims of a spurious etymology vanish on examination. Such claims are not made except by those who are comparatively

ignorant of the real origin of words. Until recently the Etymologic guns wer supozd to tel hevily against advocats of Amended Speling. The latr, however, hav captured the aforesaid guns; and ar now using them with teribl efect against stupid but stubborn objectors. Formerly, Greek and Latin wer supozd to giv the origin of nearly all our words; and, to represent such fanciful origin, absurd der vation was resorted to, to bolster up some absurd orthograpy. The study of Anglo-Saxon, Midl English, French and German, has dispeld all that and left a hevly balance in favor of *Sound Orthograpy*. We quote farther:—

"When A herd the great opinion Apollo had of Milton, he puld out a petition to be relievd against the encroachments of I who had forst himself into *Parliament*, contrary to the authority of Milton, who always rote it *Parlament*: But he was prevaild upon to withdraw his petition by his adversary; who whisperd him that he had betr not move in that matr for fear lest they both shud be banisht and the province asigid to E: who in truth had betr right than either.

"A complaint of ED against T, for jostling him out of ends of verbs of the proter-perfect tens and of participls. The Court had sat late, and therefore referd this petition to another day, and adjurnd."

REASONS WHY IRREGULARITIS AND CONTRADICTIONS OF SPELING SHUD BE ABOLISHT, AND THE SAME SOUND BE ALWAYS SPELT IN THE SAME WAY:

1. Becaus these irregularitis and contradictions caus great waste of the limited scool life and brain power of children, and confuse insted of strengthening and develop-ing their minds.

2. Becaus when lernt they ar soon forgotn, and riting is renderd an unnecessarily painful and tedious task to the artizan and labor-ing classes—that is, to the bulk of men and women.

3. Becaus instruction from books printed in consistent speling wil make peopl speak with greater purity, clearnes, and uniformity of pronunciation.

4. Becaus children can in a few weeks be taut to read with fluency and plesure books printed in simplified speling, and can afterwards pas from them without further instruction to the reading of books printed in the present speling. Existing books and libraris wil thus become of more extended benefit than they ar at present.

5. Becaus changes in direction of speling by sound, which wil render reading and riting easier for the poor (to whom, in an especal sens, time is money), ar also urgently desired by the chief among those scolars who make the history and etymology of our language their special study.

6. Because time and labor lost in teaching and lerning intricacis of speling, and in riting and printing useles lettrs, represent milions per annum, which might otherwise be spent for the general welfare.

7. Becaus whatever improvement we can

efect *now* wil benefit the milions of peopl who wil come after us.

8. Becaus comunity of literature and identity of speech form the best guarantee of amicabl federation all the world over, and becaus English—alredy the most widely difused—is, apart from its "absurd and antiquated orthograpy," the best fitted of all languages to become the medium of comere, and the precursor of enlightenment thruout the globe.—S. R. A.

KEP PEGING AW@.

Ther'z a maxim that's tru,
And f'l tel it tu yu,
Øl pensiv yung feloz
Hu sumtîmz get blu:
Hwen the cloudz gather fast
Til the darkn the de,
Pra dont get discurejd,
Kep peging awa!

Ther iz sunshîn abuv,
Tho it sumtîmz luks blak;
And an oshan øv blu
Abuv the cloud rak;
Thru the shouerz øv spring
Cumz forth smiling Ma;
So dont get discurejd,
Kep peging awa!

It wez cær kild a cat,
In the dez that ar flon;
And he 'z blind az a bat
Hu sits down tu bemon.
Be blith and be cherful,
Lit-harted and ge,
And dont get discurejd,
Kep peging awa!

And if in this proses
Yu chans tu peg out,
Hwî, met yur fet bravli,
With hart gud and stout.
And hwen øl iz ended,
The enjeltz wil se:
Yu did yur wurk nobli,—
Kept peging awa.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FRANCE.

SIR,—I am glad that yur monthly is going ahead. It's a bright litl paper and can drive a nail where bigger ones wud fail.

The French S. R. A. (*Société de Réforme Orthographe*) is going on all right. Prof. L. Havet has joind us; others will folo soon. I believ the Academy will make a few (very slight) changes shortly.

I hav started a clas of Scientific fonetics which is wel attended.

Neuilly-sur-Seine, France. P. PASSY.

[The French Association issue a monthly bulletin. It is publisht with the *Instituteur Sténographe* and may be had for a year by sending 50 cents tu E. Faivre, 25 Rue Brézin, Paris.]

FONOTYPY.

SIR,—Why do yu not use ful fonotypy, "a sign for each sound?"

Seaforth, Ont.

W. N. WATSON.

[Beacuz it costs \$5 to hav made a punch for a new sh'pe. If a capital be required, another \$5 is requisit. Hence \$10 is needed for each modification of a letr, and that for each size of type. We aim at having cast a neat new font of type of this size which will properly set off the Educational stage and indicate good pronunciation. We hav been using imperfect makeshifts. Our correspondent and evry reader ar hereby invited to contribute litl or much to a Type Fund. Independent of all cost we take a world of time and trubl. No one can foresee exactly what modifications of letrs—we do not advocate new letrs—it is best to employ. Associations ar now actively at work in Sweden, France, Britan and America. They will extend farther and wider. Manifestly, the plans adpcted must harmonize. We must move in concert, so far as plans can be foreseen. We advance—sloly, surely, as far as we hav light. We mean busines. Ar yu in sympathy, reader? If so, how much? \$5 worth? \$1 worth? Or does yur appreciation fizl out in words? "Speak now, or ever after hold yur peace."—ED.]

OBITU.—Signor Louis Bertoloto died recently in Port Hope, Ont., at the age of 82. A nativ of Genoa, he had resided and traveld all over Europ. He came to Canada as steward to Sir Edmund Head, Govenor-General, in 1857. He afterwards held the same post to the Stadacona Club, Quebec. He spoke his nativ Italian wel, and was familiar with its literature, as wel as that of most modern tungs. He was a warm advocat of Amendment in Orthograpy. The orthograpy of Italian, Spanish, and German is so simpl in comparison with ours that it was a marvel to him how we ever came to drop into such a barbarus system of con-

tradictory irregularitis. It was beyond his comprehension how anyone cud be so blind as not to see them or so lost to all orthographic decency as to defend, when pointed out, the reched, antiquated printed and ritn drapery in which we stil insist on keeping clad the noblest language of them all. He had apeard at most European Courts. His fund of information was ful—in many ways we wer indeted to it. He wisht for deth rather than feard it. REQUIESCAT IN PACE.

SYLLABLES.

A sylabl may consist of a vowel only, or of a vowel preceded or folod, or both preceded and folod, by any articulation.

The articulations L and N, frequently constitute sylabls without vowels sounded; as *ripp(l)e*, *ris(e)n*, *ev(e)n*, &c.

The letr M has the same syllabic effect in such words as *rhythm*, *chasm*, &c.

These letrs, L, M, and N, tho perfect articulations, hav almost a vowel purity of voice, from the opennes of the oral aperture [for L] or the nasal one [for M and N] in their formation.

Evry sylabl in a word and evry element in a sylabl shud receiv its definit and exact sound, however rapid the pronunciation.—*Bell's Elocution*, §§ 27-30.

TEACHING LANGUAGES,

The question how languages may best be taut on fonetic principls has not hitherto receivd much attention. . . . Some ov our leading foneticians hav admited that one of the greatest difficultis they found in lerning French pronunciation acuratly was the fals teaching which had been ingrained into them at school. The only possibl way to lern foren sounds correctly is to make this study (of the sounds) the earliest, and til it is acomplisht, to avoid all gramar and riting of exercises. . . . Ther is no reasonabl provision for the study of Speech-sounds at any university in these [British] ilands. We o't to hav scientific specialists, able to train yung students in fonetics and alfabetics; to bring them into actual contact with the living phenomena of speech, insted of condemning them to puzl over the ded conventionalitis of orthograpy. But when ar we likely to hav any such university scool of original reserch in fonetics? Not until the Germans hav exhausted the subject, and taut us how our education shud be organized.—*Lecky*.

— "To do so or not" wer five consecutiv words recently seen by us in a newspaper. It will be observd that the letr o occurs in each word, but it does not represent the same sound in any two. Can anything be more stupidly irregular? To teach children by such a self-contradictory and perplexing method is absurd.