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The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

VOL. II, 8. TORONTO, CANADA, October, 1898.

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UNIFORM PROPER NAMES IN SCRIPTURE.

The fifteenth plank in our Platform as printed on the cover calls for establish or fixt speling; that is, speling unvarying or unwavering. A foreman in a large printing-hous in Toronto (the Methodist Book Room) tels us that, bad as old speling is, as evry printer very wel understands and deplores, yet, becaus fixt, it promotes order, that is, uniformity in word-forms, in evry such hive of busy workers, but unsetld word-forms wud caus confusion intolerabl, vexatios, time-wasting—bad as ar old forms, unsetld new ones, no mater how very meritorios otherwise, wud be worse.

Again, the fifteenth plank says that the requirements of literature demand a fixt speling, a subject too large to do justice to now. Space permits us only to remind readers of a small part of a vast subject:

During revizion of biblical translation, the varying forms of proper names in the translated Jewish and Cristian scriptures receivd attention. Of this some account was givn by A. Roberts, D. D., in his *Companion to the Revized Version of The English New Testament*, wherin, speaking of proper names, in part ii, chap. iii, he said:—

"The comon sens principl . . . is that one form shud be preservd throuot Scripture for the same person, so that ther may be no dout as to identity. . . . This rule is grosly violated in the Authorized Version. We find such varieties as Noah and Noe, Korah and Core, Hosea and Osee, Sinai and Sina, Midian and Madian, Miletus and Miletum, etc., uzed in referring to the same persons and places—most confusing, sometimes entailing serios disadvantage."—Page 111.

Trench, *On the Authorized Version*, says:

"Let us just seek to realize to ourselvs the difrence in amount of awakeud attention among a cuntry congregation which Matt. xvii, 10, wud create if red thus: 'And his disiples askt him, saying, Why then say the scribes that ELIJAH must first come?' as compared with what it now is likely to create."—Page 41.

Rev. Dr Roberts then proceeds:—

"The procedure of our translators in this mater is truly incomprehensibl. Not only do they vary forms in the Old and New Testament, but in the New Testament itself, even in the same books, yea, even in the same chapters. Thus we find 'Mark' at Acts xii, 12, 25 and 2 Tim. iv, 11, but 'Marcus' at Col. iv, 10, Philemon vers 24, 1 Peter v, 13; 'Cretes' at Acts ii, 11, but 'Cretians' at Titus i, 12; 'Simon, son of Jona', at John i, 42, but 'Simon, son of Jonas', at John xxi, 15, 16, 17; 'Luke' at Col. iv, 14, 2 Tim. iv, 11, but 'Lucas' at Philem.

vers 24; 'Jeremy' at Matt. ii, 17, but 'Jeremias' at Matt. xvi, 14, and 'Jeremy' again at Matt. xxvii, 9; 'Timotheus' at Acts xvi, 1, but 'Timothy' at Heb. xiii, 21, and most strange of all, 'Timothy' at 2 Cor. i, 1, but 'Timotheus' at vers 19 of the same chapter. . . . These and similar inconsistencies ar correctd in ths Revized Version."—Page 112.

Jesus and *Joshua* hav the same word-form, 'Iησοῦς, in Greek, translated "Jesus" in Acts vii, 45, Heb. iv, 8, when Joshua, leader of Israel, is ment—a misleading puzl to plain readers. Roberts proceeds:

"At Acts xvii, 19, we find 'Areopagus', but only three verses after the same spot is 'Mars Hill'; 'Judea' at Matt. ii, 1, and most other places, for some inconceivabl reason appears as 'Jewry' at Luke, xxiii, 5, John vii, 1; 'Judas', the uzual New Testament form for 'Judah' of the Old, appears as 'Juda' at Mark, vi, 3, etc., and as 'Jude' in the first vers of the Episl by that Apostl. It is hard to defend such capricios variations."—Page 113.

A proper name is fixt comonly for one language only. A study of the genealogies of Matthew and Luke in difrent modern languages wil reveal striking variations in word-forms. A frend says that he is glad that some use for these genealogies has been found at last.

From the foregoing we infer two corollaries: first, variant spelings ar an evil; second, choice of the beter ones is conventional (Platform, §10).

A paralel case is that of geografic names now going thru the *conventional* mil of the geografic societies, their jurnals and transactions, with asociated workers.

DUBL CONSONANTS.

Sevn hundred years ago Ormin proposd and practist in his book, the *Ormulum*, denoting "short" or secondary vowels by dubling the consonant after each.

In our colums for April last Mr Willner urged that "dubl leters hav their uses and shud be retaind in strest [stopt] sylabls". He is "raddical" enuf to spel *radical* so.

Prof. C. P. G. Scott, in the Saint Louis, Mo., *Phonetic Teacher* for May and June, 1882, rote under the motto

"Double, double; toile and trouble"
from the witches' song in *Macbeth*, (Act iv, Scene i, where they make hel-broth, a vile compound like complex, retched speling):

"A great deal of the confusion in current speling of English arises from the arbitrary use of

dubl consonants. Except in a few compounds like book-case, dubl consonants never occur in pronunciation; yet in our spelling they swarm like locusts in Egypt: for they 'cover the face of the hole erth, so that the land is darknd, very grievous ar they; before them ther wer no such locusts as they, neither after them shall be such.'

Scott then gave long word-lists in parallel colums, showing that in these words where dubl consonants ar found now but singl ones occur in Anglosaxon. He was then instructor in Anglosaxon in Columbia college. He goes on to say:—

"These words, as a rule, continued to be spelt with a singl consonant until the sevteenth century, when the dubl consonant, never sound-ed dubl, began to prevail—to preserv the short sound' of the preceding vowel; a wholly unnecessary device; ther ar thousands of words in which the 'short sound' of a vowel, accented or not, is preserv'd before a singl consonant. Such words, if monosyllabls, ar chiefly Anglosaxon; if polysyllabls, chiefly Latin (French), or Greek."

Where we now hav dubl consonants Old French, Midl English, and usually their Modern French equivalents, ar shown to hav singl ones; and again

"In many of these words doubling is due to conformation with Latin; but such conformation is indefensibl on both fonetic and historic grounds; on fonetic grounds, becaus the sound is singl; on historic grounds, becaus the dubl consonant falsly implies direct derivation from Latin.

"If it wer posibl for an advocat of 'historic' or 'etymologic' spelling to cherish that plausible notion after a week's real study of etymology, he wud hav to insist on return to 'historic' spelling of the words mentiond, and w'd so far, tho he had vowd neither to offer burnt offering nor sacrifice to other gods than 'Etymology', be forced to bow himself down in the hous of the Rimmon of Fonetics."

Scott reaches the sweeping conclusion: "dubl consonants ar at once needles, wasteful and misleading. Whenever yu see a dubl consonant raise its hed, hit it. Ten to one yu will lay an imposter low."

Adopting this sweeping rule of omission for some years, we soon found that doubling l, m, n, r and s was necessary in some classes of words (see HERALD, vol. i, page 169) as *illegal, immortal, unnecessary, irredeemable, dissimilar*, tho the syllabl in consideration had but medium or low stres; as well as such words as *wholly, fully*, for which "holi" and "fuli" will not do. The consonant in such case is "held", to signify which foneticians hav a special sign not admissibl in Orthograpy.

Mr Holt (of Henry Holt & Co., publishers, New York) rites:—

"Is ther any necessity of geting rid of the few accepted rules of English spelling and pronunciation which we hav? One of these rules I take to be that a consonant between two vowels belongs with the latter, and consequently yu can divide spelling, which makes the pronunciation as we ar uz'd to it, or yu can divide spelling, which makes the pronunciation 'speeling'.

"If I am rong about this, I shall be very glad to be set right."

We hav carefully considerd this, reaching a conclusion that it is but a mechanical (not a fonetic) rule—a "rule of thum" to

be givn a typeseter too ignorant or too stupid to folo any other. In our language strest vowels attract neighboring consonants. Vickroy haf saw this fully fifteen years ago, in saying "syllabls gravitate about accentual centers". To which belong m in *feminine* or *premise* (noun), t in *preterite, petulant*, or l in *polish, prelude*? Ar not bib-lic.al, tel-e.graf, te.leg.ra.fy, he-red-i.ty, her-ō.in, prop-er.ty, wel divided? The foloing deliverance from the Chicago *Stylebook*, p. 7, is both useful and logical, but it conflicts with Holt's rule:—

"Ther ar frequent instances where a particular division of a word will aid the reader in its pronunciation at first sight, obviating faltering or repetition, as pro-gress, verb, and prog-ress, noun, distrib-ute, verb, and distri-bution, noun; pre-fer, verb, and pre-ferable, adjeuiv."

Again, this good rule does not help it:—

"Where a vowel constitutes a syllabl in mid word place this vowel in the first line, as prominent is preferabl to prominent, qualities to-qual-ities, particu-lar to particu-lar, dili-gence to dili-gence, sepa-rate to sepa-rate, etc. Exceptions: In words ending in -able or -ible, the singl vowel shud be carid into the second line."—*Ibid.*

We conclude, first, in Amended Spelling (as distinguisht from its syndrom Orthograpy) ther ar cases of holding and of stres in uncomon positions, and a few isolated words, as *latter*, in which dubld consonants shud be retaind, as a hint to position of stres or to prevent conflict with other words, as *later*; exampls: *abyss, success, gazett, gazell, tobacco, mulatto*. Ther ar four words with dubld consonants in the anecdote of Milton on our fourth page. Now, in *dissimilar* let ss be retaind to show that s is "held"; but in "account", "according-li", and "effect", where they appear on the authority of a dictionary, let singl c and f suffice becaus these first syllabls hav low stres. Second, in Scool Orthograpy let *abnormal* stres be markt, as *hotel; gazet*; but this is unnecessary in an establisht Orthograpy as long experience with *hotel* amply testifies.

THE ANNUAL.—*The Annual of New Spelling* consists of the HERALD for a year put in coverd pamphlet form. It is sent post-paid for ten cents.

-T FOR -ED.—Let us recomend restoration of historic t after breth consonants, which printers during the past century hav industriously perverted to ed, riting *felcht, blusht, pickt, drest, winkt*, like Shakspear, and Herbert, and Milton, and Addison, and as we actualy do in *lost, left, felt, meant, burnt, blest, taught*. *Laughed* for *laught* is not a whit les monstros than *taughted, soughted*, wud be for *taught, sought*; nor is *workd* for *workt* les odios than *wroughted* wud be for *wrought*.—Dr James A. H. Murray.

NEW SPELLING

LITERATURE.

STYLEBOOK OF THE CHICAGO SOCIETY OF PROOFREADERS. Published by Authority. Pp. 16, 12mo; Ben Franklin Co., 232 Irving av., 15 cents.

In many small points beside spelling, as abbreviations, use of capitals, citations, use of the hyphen, figures, italic and lower-case letters, division of words, punctuation and all that, printers find that conventional uniformity expedites their work—points (some of them at any rate) not essential to others, but essential to them because time- or money-wasting, they wish to no what experience dictates—how conventionalism has held when to do this, when to do that, when not to do another thing. For all hands to folo fixt rules givs neater and uniform results—hence this Stylebook, the latest addition to setl many points hitherto varying. In it we think we trace the hand of a Chicago Boss. From Caxton, 400 years ago, down to Horace Hart of the Clarendon Press in transatlantic circles and Henry K. Boss in cisatlantic ones this stereotyping or fixation proces has been going on. Ther is this difrence, however, between Horace and Henry: Horace is a cast-iron conservativ, while Henry is of ro't-iron, slightly flexibl—he not only permits but advocates beter spelling, and is not "hidebound". Evry practical printer shud hav this Stylebook as one of his labor-, time- and money-saving tools; as shud, too, evry literateur who wishes to rite mother-tung in "good form".

THE FIRST BOOK OF FONETIC READING, Adapted to a 30-letter Fonetic Alfabet by Prof. Candy, Fox Hill, Norwood, Eng., pp. 16, 24mo; Pitman, 1 Amen Corner, London, and 33 Union square, New York. Price, 1 penny.

THE SECOND BOOK OF FONETIC READING, 32 pages, *ibid.* Price, 2 pence.

The alfabet uzed in these primers may be described as Pitman's revized and improved, lucid, logical, legibl, consistent, a good way or tool to teach to read; but a transition reader will be requisit. As they ar so cheap, evry one shud get them for examination at least. This is beter than to giv a specimen or attempt analysis here.

As to Pronunciation, that is comendabl in genral, rarely questionabl. Receivd orthoepy is exemplified thruout. The vowels ar twelv in number, all monothongs, with the five difthongs that Pitman insisted on—three of the latter havin separat signs, two (ai, oi) uzed with their elements. The pronunciation so far is a harbinger that thirty-sevn millions of British need not difer greatly from dubl that number in America so far as concerns speech to be aimd at (Platform, \$9). If they difer much, ours as a world-language, as fallen on evil days—days when politicians siting at Quebec may agree, as shud scolars.

THE REFORMD READING PRIMER, a steppingstone to ordinary print. First Book, by R. W. Leftwich, M. D., Pitman, 48 p. 24mo, 15 c'ts.

THE INTERNATIONAL ALFABET, *ibid.*, 6d.

Besides, in preparation is a Second part, and Luke's Gospel. The four form a set for teaching to read by "algebraic notation", a small figure like an algebraic index being placed after each letter, with 0 for silence. This method was uzed to denote English by two Swedes, Loewenh elm in 1863, Calvagen in 1897. A transition reader is unnecessary, Leftw eh justly claiming that "the natural tendency to shirk unnecessary labor will hav led him [the pupil] to dispens with reference to the figures as words become familiar. 'He wil therefore pas redily to ordinary print.'"

The International Alfabet "consisting of 109 symbols, givs, collated, all the 'powers' or sounds in English, French, German and Italian." It is a four-page table of equivalents in paralel columns—useful in comparativ fonetics.

CORRESPONDENCE.

NEARLY A CENTENARIAN.

SIR: I bear the weight of 95 years, but am refreshd by reading THE HERALD, and thank yu for sending it. My eye fails, so I hav to study it by instalments. I see that yu ar earnest and competent. Go on! I can only say hurah! I hope that the next generation wil not be stultified by retched spelling as we ar. When wil the glad day come? I want at least one new letter, one having the power of *avo*.

Cortland, N. Y. (REV.) H. LYMAN.
[May he liv to see it, like Simeon in Luke ii.]

AGENT-NOUNS—CANDY'S ALFABET.

SIR: I object to being styled Professor, with an e: it is cbanging the Language, not merely the Spelling, to obliterate the distinction between er and ir, on one hand, which I rite er; and or our ur, on the other, which I rite ur*, o open on top. Er denotes simply an agent: ur is something more. A ship is a sailer or steamer: the men in it ar Sailurs. A soliciter is one who begs: a Solicitur is a lawyer.

I claim that my set of vowels is neater and more systematic than any before; and that my new letters harmonize with the old.

London, Eng. F. J. CANDY.

[*Prof. C's sign for the vowel in *come* or *up* is o open a-top, a cross between o and u, or u with tops bent in like a hors-shoe. How about ar in *pedlar, registrar, beggar, vicar*; yr in *martyr, satyr*?—EDITOR.]

WORD-REGISTER.

SPELLING AMENDED	PROPOSED ORTHOGRAPHY	COSMOPOLITAN ORTHOEPY
agley	agl	ə.glr, a.gle.i.*
amenity	ameniti	†
<i>carte blanche</i>		cart blaf
depute	depiūt	dɛ.piūt
deputy	depyuti	depyu.ti
franchis	franchiz	fran.tfiz, aiz-
Haiti, Hayti	Haiti	hai.ti-
of	ov	ov (coloq'l, əv)
off	of	of

*Q-glê', for a.gle', is the pronunciation givn by "A Standard Dictionary". Rev. Wm Wye Smith, St Catharines, Ont., edited the Scottish words for the Dictionary, and says the pronunciation intended is a.gle.i. Thru misunderstanding, defectiv notation, or other caus, this was not givn. In the Dictionary like variation has ocured with a number of Scottish words for which readers shud be on gard. Wright's new Dialect Dictionary givs ə.glr only. The word is comon thru Burns' lines (To a Mouse, wherin it is made to rime with "joy") having become proverbial:—

"The best laid schemes o' mice an' men
Gang aft a-gley,
An' lea'e us nought but grief and pain
For promis'd joy."

†It is work of supererogation to giv the pronunciation of "amenity" because all words that end with ity hav high stres on the sylabl just before -ity: a.men.i.ti. When pronunciation is not givn it is because one can redily infer it from the "linguistic habits" of his own tung.

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