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The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

VOL. II, 23.

TORONTO, CANADA, July, 1902.

N^R. 73.

A TEACHER'S BLESING.

Recently my wife, dauter, a frend (an ex-teacher) and I had tea at a café. Our frend said: "Teachers wil bles yu to all eternity if yu reform speling." I appreciate the opinion of a practical man as to need of reform, casting aside the novice's jely-fish coments. One who day by day had past thru the fiery furnace of English speling new what it was to be burnt, and desired to save others the misery. Will teachers bles reformers and reform? It is questionabl. Gratitude is rare; teachers hav no more than others. Reformers ar never overloaded with thanks: too often the relieved forget relievers: sp. reformers wil die unonord and unsung. Friends ar mortal; truth, immortal. It is beter to bles than to be bles.

A teacher's work being so much out of sight, so litl known or comprehended, it is quite difficult to enlist the genral public, or even the erudite, on his behaf. Difficulties of teaching English ar lookt on as unalterabl; if alterabl, not by outsiders. Didactic methods change. Teaching children to read is changed in method, and *needs to be further improved. Teachers may do much in adopting beter methods, and thus bles themselvs.* Parents shud bak them.

A teacher's blesing means much; a child's, more. Burdend teachers mean a *childhood enslaved*, slaves becaus we ar too lazy, too indifrent to their scolastic welfare. England and America hav done much for emancipation. Hands, heds and harts of liberaters ar needed to snap these chains of needles bondage. Hav senators no curage, no wil, no power to befrend the child at scool? Let them free teacher and child from the framels of an 'orthografy efete and corrupt,' and a dubl blesing wil rest on them.

H. DRUMMOND.

NEWS-NOTES AND COMENTS.

—Founding a British Academy, corresponding in some way to the French Academy, is discust. A petition to the King asks incorporation on behaf of 'The British Academy for Promotion of Historical, Philosophical and Philological Studies.' This arises out of forming (1899) an Internat'l Asoc'n of principal scientific and literary Academies. This Int'l Aso'n has two sec-

tions, one of natural, the other of literary sience. When the Aso'n met at Paris in 1900, internat'nal representativs wer greatly surprisid to find that whilst the Royal Society represented Britan in fysical sience, no institution suficiently comprehensiv represented British lerning in historic, filosofic and filologic studies. As the Int'l Asoc'n meets in London in 1904, something must be done, and representativ scolars hav carefully considered a scheme resulting in the presnt petition. Among promoters ar Lord Reay, Lord Acton, Messrs A. J. Balfour, John Morley, James Bryce, Lecky, Thomas Hodgkin, Sir R. Jebb, Drs A. W. Ward, Edward Caird, Fairbairn, Robert Flint, J. A. H. Murray, Prof's Skeat and Marshall, and Canons Driver and Sanday. The petition is referd to a committee of the Lords in Council. Poetry, fiction and belles-lettres ar omitted from its scope.

—At least three pronounced speling reformers appear in the above list; namely, Hon. A. J. Balfour and profesers Murray and Skeat.

—Criticism hostile to the Academy thus outlined has develope acording to later advices. Some ridicule an academy with certn men like Henry Morley dropt. Balfour, a leading politician, has oponents in these days of hot politics. Again, an academy may be far from being an unmixt good; so others look askance.

—*Supersede* is very apt to be misspelt with c, apparently thru being misled by false analogy. It comes from Old French *superseder*, that from Latin *supersedere*, compound of *super* (upon) + *sedere* (to sit). *Sedentary* (spelt with s by evrybody) is from the same root.

—*Consensus* is very apt to hav a second c inserted from mistaken analogy. *Consensus* is itself a Latin word introduced unchanged (like *omnibus*, *nostrum*), past participi of *consentire* compound of *con* (together) + *sentire* (to feel).

—Chinese standard or received orthoepy is of interest becaus of involvd questions as to what to accept as model speech, questions takld by A. Seidel in his *Woerterbuch der nordchinesischen Umgangssprache* (A. Schwartz, Leipzig and Oldenburg), a suplement to his *Chinesischen Kolonialzeitung*, wherin vocabularies ar arranged under 15 main- and 150 sub-divisions. The Pekin dialect is selected becaus it is (1) the language of the court and capital; (2) the foundation of the language of intercour (the Mandarin dialect) thruout the hole kingdom; (3) the now recognized model of polite conversation; (4) most widely difused of all Chinese dialects, and, as such, wil prove of great use to foreners lerning Chinese.

—*The Dial* (Chicago, April 1) has an artiel on fonetics and speling reform by W. Rice. He points out discrepancies between British orthoepy as shown in NED (the Murray-Bradley New Eng. Dict.) as compared with keywords to Amer. Filologic Aso'n's alfabet. He thinks that (not filologists but) foneticians, specialists in the premises, shud rule. He stirs up maters without reaching anything conclusiv that we see.

—Shuting one's eyes to it, or shirking

an issue otherwise, removes it not. Beside British-American divergences, all fonetic questions ar cast in the fire of criticism, whence, now and then, come sparks having fundamental bearing on alfabetics. Far from shirking fonetico-filologic questions, THE HERALD began this volume by two quotations, one from a filologist (Latham), the other from one (Sweet) both filologist and fonetician. THE HERALD declared their statements fundamental. FACTS and PRINCIPLES! is the key-note and rallying-cry of this volume—determin the facts of orthoepy, establish principles for orthography. Unscientific, slipshod work wil serv no longer. Latham counseld bilding on solid roky principls, not shifting sand. Sweet wisht stopt this neverending "hatching of one scheme after another," maintaining that "acurat noledge of the facts of pronunciation must be grapld with by scientific methods, and that these marshald facts wud help setl spelling." A singl fonetic FACT surely establisht may be far reach- ing in efect, and changz the entire aspect. We must face the music, meet cold facts in scientific method, or els we may as wel strop now. Let foneticians and filologists hav it out. We stand by, deeply interested orthografer, redy to cronicl, consider and adopt conclusions wel considred.

—Type-funds ar now in order. Beside ours of \$12, Dr Larison reports one of \$45.61, and the editer of Intelligence reports one with a \$5 nest-eg to enable Mr O. C. Blackmer, Oak Park, Ill., to print specimens of New Spelling in Intelligence, a jurnal for educaters.

—We need . . . to Anglicize quasi-foren spellings and pronunciations, yet exercize greater care in riting those purely foren, especially proper names like Habana, Chile, Buenos Aires, now habituallly corrupted.—Evacustes A. Phipson.

—Prof. C. P. G. Scott, Etymologic editer of the Century dict'y, Editer in chief of the new dict'y being made by Lippincott & Co., Philad'a, wil adress the Nat'l Edu'l As'n at Minneapolis, Minn., 11 July: subject, Simplific'n of Speling a Presnt Duty.

—The Committee on Variant Spellings appointed by the Ontario Educa'l Asoc'n in April has twelv members with power to ad to their number. They ar Prof's Cameron, Horning, Keyes, Squair, Principls Fraser, Hicks, MacAlister, Pakenham, Messrs Hamilton, Houston, Locheed, White. They find five clases of variant spellings: (1) Scripture names; (2) Indian names in America; (3) place-names; (4) chemical terms; (5) miselaneous, including Greek names spelt with k alternativ with c, as Thukydidēs.

—"How the Voice Looks," an ilustrated articl by Prof. Scripture of Yale in The Century magazine for May, is a popular introduction to experimental or machine fonetics.

—"Commercial English," a term coind by Mr Blackmer, appears to him more truly indicativ than New Spelling. His spelling, exeuplied p 56, he considers purely fonetic, consistent with itself, representing what to him is standard pronunciation, to be put into use to teach foren-ers to read, rite and speak our tung as a commercial language. Its Roman vowel values make it redily lerned. A Spaniard, e. g., may lern to speak it, and he is to spel it in the fonetic way only, to read and rite it so, and lastly to read print and riting in the old way. He wil not be required to spel in the old way; and British-Americaus correspondng with him wil read, without trubl, his commercial English, thus made a medium of communication throuth the world. A book cud be made to enable most Europeans to read and rite Commercial English quikly.

—On the above we remark: the Direct Method of aquirng our language, explaind p. 88, is such a system, but leavs the lerner with (no

New Spelling, but) Old Speling to be memorized and curst at evry step becaus of inconsistencies and irregularities. Pupils taut by Direct Method might take Commercial English as their text. Then they wud be left with a cosmopolitan New Speling. Who wil start?

—The Geographic Board of Canada (A. H. Whitcher, Ottawa, secretary) was establisht 1897, amended 1899. "All questions of geografic names in the Dominion [alone] arising in departments of the public service shal be referd to the Board, all departments shal accept and uze in their publications names and orthografy adopted by the Board." At first "its decisious wer binding on such departments only. Provincial governments' [sevu now, groing fast as new territories organize] publications wer not governd by the Board's decisions with lak of uniformity in geografic nomenclature." Later, all hav come in except Kebec (Quebec) and Manitoba. The Board has publisht its Third Annual Report for 1901 in a large blu-book for the department of Marine and Fisheries, Marine branch, but may be had separatly for five cents. It is known as sessional paper 21a, 1902. It contains 44 large 8vo pages, of which 33 ar a catalog of decisions on names.

—Mr Broomell's pamflet on Speling (see our p. 67) proves excelent amunition to fire at an unconverted world. Acordingly, ther is a stir to hav its publishers, the Ben Franklin Co., put it in type for a new edition from stereotype plates, from which editions cud be struc off ever after at cost of paper and preswork, to be used profusely as campain literature. To help meet first cost \$11 is in hand, and more wil be gratefully receivd by H. R. Boss, 232 Irving av., Chicago.

—All three of Toronto's morning dailies giv favorabl symptoms. The World (April 26th) had a colum editorial givn to sp. ref'm. The Mail last summer dropt u from -our, which it had inserted stedily since 1872. The Globe redily puts in correspondence favoring amendment in sp.

WITH THE LINGUISTS.

(Continued from p. 90.)

AMERICAN O IN *not*

In *The Journal of Orthography and Orthoepy* (Feb., '02) Mrs Burnz says "Most pupils don't appreciate the difrence between *a* short and *o* til special dril is givn." The veteran H. M. Parkhurst, Brooklyn, N.Y., in the same number, tels that, as to vowels in *not, what, arm,*

"a yung man cud not recognize any difrence, as I cud not make him perceiv it in my pronunciation, nor I in his. I hav found sevral who considered them the same except in quantity, and many, especially, from the South, who habituallly pronounced them the same, when the question was not raised."

Note Mrs Burnz' "special dril" and connect it with Parkhurst's words "when the question was not raised" and that wil help to our conclusion: Americans say *orm,* *not, hwot* (also *wot, mot, ar herd*). Seeming difrences ar slight, and due to pitch, intensity, duration, and influence of adjacent sounds, as in any vowel. In other words, they ar the same. *Pass*, when not pronounced *pæs*, is *pos*, just the same as the first sylabl of *possible*. Emerson says

"Old English short *o* was an open sound not unlike the vowel in *law*, but shorter. This sound when not lengthend is preservd with consistency in London English as *hot, lot*. The same sound

is sometimes herd in America, but very comonly ritn short o sounds like a in artistic—tru among cultivated peopl, more widely extended among those uninfluenced by scools. Exampls : ox, fox, flock, crop, top, dot . . . box, sock rob, hon-our, bottle, doctor.”—Hist. Eng. Lang., §227.

That *o* has an *a*-sound in so many words from and even before Chaucer is plain to one with both eyes and ears open. Such evidence as the foloing is comon : New Englanders in the 18th cent. wer known to their French-Canadian neighbors as Bostonians (*les Bastonnais* or *Bostonais*). For Boston they herd *bost^{on}* or *bost^{an}*, stil prevailling, tho “claims of fasion” and imitaters may say *bost^{an}* too. French ears herd the main vowel as an *a*-sound and record-ed it so frequently. See Sanguinet’s *Memoire*, An Eye-witnes of the New Englanders’ War in Canada (Le Temoin oculaire de la guerre des Bastonnais en Canada), givn in ful in M. l’Abbe Verrault’s Invasion du Canada par les Americains (See Kingsford’s Hist. Canada, vol. v, p. 418). Again, Verrault at p. 309 tels how a man named Baker was kild, leader of a party of New Englanders (. . . ils ont tué un nommé Béquier, un des chefs d’un party de Bastonnais.—Ibid., p. 422).

Mr Tuttle rites that he uzed an *a*-sign (not in the strong sylabl of *observe*, but) in the first sylabl of *observation*, which he is thot to giv as *ob-zər.vəf.ən.* or els as *ob-zər.vəf.fən.*; the pronunciation hwət for *what*, attributed to him, is Passy’s—he naturally says “hwət, to rime with *cut*, *hut*, a form presumably due to restresing weak ə.” He hears wər *were*, wəz *was*, əv *of*, frəm *from*, gət *got*, bikəz *because*, wənt *want*, with ə strong. We had reacht this conclusion that ther is widespred

SHIFTING OF CLOSE *a* AND OPEN *o* TO ə directly without pasing thru weak ə (°). We instance (1) New England “short o” as in *who*’e, *home*, *stone*, is often herd as ə (həl, həin, stən). Readers recall that O. W. Holmes was quoted (vol. i, p. 177)

“Yu no how they read Pop’s line in the smallest town in Massachusetts?—Wel, they read it

‘All are but parts of one stupendous HULL.’” and riming *home* with *come* is comon in the *Biglow Papers*. (2) French *a la mode* has *a-la-mod* alternativ to *a-la-məd* and *l’homme* is ləm as wel as lom. In French, such ə has greater tension and is closer (ə^h) than ours and may not be free from lip-efect as ours comonly is. Such ə must be very near the one (ə:) put in Sweet’s *work*. In Kebec (Quebec) the ful vowel e as in rən *run*, djəmp *jump*, etc., is givn as ron, djomp, etc., by French-Canadians speaking (not receivd French, but) 15th or 16th cent. French of Normandy modified. Dr Drummond, thruout his volumes of dialect poetry, *L’Habitant* and *Johnnie Courteau* (lab-i-ta, jan-i cūr-tō), spels

the words as “ron,” “jomp,” etc. Hence, this shifting apears not to hav developd in cisatlantic Norman. (3) Scottish *mony*, *ony*, *body*, (for *many*, *any*, *body*) ar mən-i, ən-i, bəd-i. (4) The Algonkin word for deity or spirit (manito, manedu, muneto in Cree, Keshamunedoo in Tinnê) apears to vary in first sylabl as man-, mən-, mən. This shifting apears but a particular case of substitution, which, Emerson says,

“in short vowels is limited to those which do not difer greatly in pitch, or in position of vocal organs producing them. . . . More exact study wil probably reveal some fonetic reason for all these changes.”—Ibid., §239.

MODERN AND SHAKSPEARIAN SPELLING.

(By Rev. Prof. SKEAT in Pitman’s Jurnal).

Alow remarks on two comon falacies:

(1) That filologists aprove presnt spelling, becaus it asists them in their work. Anser, they merely regard it for what it is worth: it frequently intimates what Elizabethan pronunciation was like; i. e., they merely get such information as they can from books printed in the Tudorage. The chief value of modern editions of Shakspear is their largely retaining Elizabethan spellings; but even the first folio—with all its carelesnes of execution—is beter.

A filologist who solely relied for information on modern books—as many try to—soon finds himself at sea. As a fact, he does nothing of the kind. He depends on—beyond chance of eror—the word’s modern *pronunciation*. The one elementary fact in all languages is just what our spelling hides, viz., the SPOKEN WORD, the only tru word. All els is convention; riting is merely the handmaid of spoken language and one that does her work in a very negligent and slovenly maner. Old spelings ar, uzually, far more valuabl than modern ones, precisely becaus so much more careful and fonetic. Peopl ofn take their ideas from erly printed books, when the language was changing rapidly and many inconsistencies came into vogue. Yet even these spelings ar much more fonetic, as a rule, than anything we ar now acustomd to. If a word is spelt in two or three ways, ther ar ofn reasons for it—reasons apart only to students who no what the symbols ment; to others, all is caos, especially if imagining that symbols refer to modern sounds; sounds which, in some cases, did not then anywhere exist!

Briefly, filologists rely on the sounds of modern spoken words, and on symbols employd at dates when sp. was far more fonetic than now. Mere modern sp., when unfonetic, is of no value to them whatever. Like Pat’s watch, it never deceivs, for it is never depended on.

(2) Another comon falacy is that, just

because Elizabethan sp. difers immaterialy from modern sp., the pronunciations wer much alike; that Shakspear respelt according to a modern fonetic system wud be litl alterd. The history of English sounds tels a difrent tale. It is easy to modernize Elizabethan sp., as sp. ized now is tolerably wel adapted to pronunciations then in use. We largely retain sp. of that date, then fairly fonetic. This does litl harm, as we ar near the mark. But to adapt Shakspear to a pronunciation which wud *now* be fonetic wud be purely ridiculos, and wud do no good. Rather oit we, obviously, to begin by reforming the presnt system, which, however suitabl then, is, by experience of milions of lerners, utterly unsuitabl *now*. We shal get no reform til the genral public realy lern to understand what the sp. of Shakspear's age, of Chaucer's age, and of Alfred's age, realy ment. When once the lesen is lernt that all these varying sp. wer ment to be fonetic, we shal then understand that our ancesters wer wiser than we, and that it is high time that we understand the problem as wel as they.

SPESIMEN OV FONETIK RAITIQ
(SISTEM OV EVACUSTES A. PHIPSON
IN HWITC NO NIU LETERZ AR RIKWAIRD).

Aur Fådher hwite art in hêvn, hâlôd bi dhai nêrn; dhai kiqdom kâm; dhai wil bi dân on êrth az it iz in hêvn; giv as dhis dê aur dêli brêd; and forgiv as aur trêspasez, az wi forgiv dhêm dhat trêspasez agenst às; and lid as not intu temptêcon bat diliver as from ivil: for dhain iz dhi kiqdom, dhi pauer and dhi glôri, for ever and ever: Amen.—Matt. vi, 9.

For God so lâvd dhi werld dhat hi gêv hiz ônli-bigotn sãn, dhat husoever biliveth in him cud not peric bat hâv everlâsting laif.—Djon iii, 16.

Nôt: Dher iz a ferdher advantedj in dhis sistem, dhat aksénted leterz nid not bi yuzd in dauful kêsez or for obskiur vauelz, nor ivn for emfaisaidz wanz anlêd dher iz posibiliti ov eror, az in cip (*ship*), cip (*sheep*); or nôt (*not*), nôt (*note*), nôt (*naught*). Dhi sain ê iz tu bi rekomended for werk, werld, az not onli fonetikli bat also etimolodjikli korect (kompêr date [Dutch] *werk, wereld*), for hwite rizon e cud bi adopted in Rivaizd Speling tû, rather dhan o or u.

Kî: pâr't, fê'te, ravine, rô'le, rû'le
pât, pêt, pit. pôt, pût
gân (*gun*) pôrt
opal, open, devil, atom, lejur
aisle, oil, kauri (*cowrie*), piu
cud (*should*), lejur, tcêrtc, djâdj
siqiq (*singing*).

WORD-REGISTER.

[A dash (—) means, same as the preceding.]
[. means, infer from the preceding.]

OLD SPELLING REVIZED (OR AMENDED)	NEW SPELLING ORTHOGRAFY ("SYNDROM").	COSMOPOLITAN ORTHOEPY (VARIORUM).
protest (verb)	—*
protest (noun)	prōtest
protestant	protestant†
Protestant	—	prot'est.ant.†
rank	—§
Rouen (Fr.)	—	rū-a.¶
Stikine**	Stikin	stik-in††

* Protest is inferd, with ō because the first sylabl is open, t being attracted into the second sylabl by stres—second sylabl stres being the rule in such verbs. In 'protest' (noun), stress-attraction brings t into the first sylabl, which is stopt therby. In the noun, therefore, o requires a macron. The macron then performs, in effect, the part of stres-mark. Markt o and u occur mainly in sylabls stopt by stres having drawn the consonant immediatly foloing o or u into such sylabl and allowing the macron to sho quantity due to stres, as wel as to mark quality, a dubl function.

† The stres-mark (·) wil be requisit in scool-books alone. In the synonym protester, as in protestant, stres is the same as in the verb. Hence we hav prot'est, prot'est'er, prot'est'ant.

‡ Italic vowels (*a, e, i, o, u*) ocuring in English words denote certn establisht varieties of pronunciation specified explicitly in our Key.

§ Before k or g, n sounds ŋ by position. It is considerd a work of supererogation to put it rangk in Orthograpy, however necessary that may be in orthoepy-fonetics. Experience proves ng useles before k, g, x. Besides it wastes time and space as wel as offends the eye by being de trop—too much g. An occasional word (as engraver) may caus slight hesitation. In some words (like congregation) it is not setld among orthoepists that n is sounded ng. In such words Orthograpy shud be noncommittal (Platform, plank 13)—a farther reason for leaving wel enuf alone.

¶ The sound ŋ never folos immediatly either a primary vowel or a difthong. Conversely, givn ng, a secondary vowel precedes. Hence, in rank, and all such words, the vowel is æ, not a—the Orthografer distinguishing the two before ng (and elsewhere, too) performs useles work, as the two can be distinguisht redily by position.

¶ Italic vowels (*a, e, o, ə*) in *French* or other foren word denote a, e, o, ə, nasalized, respectively, (that is, spoken thru the nose).

** The Stikine, a river in Alaska and in British Columbia, is speld Stickeen, Stikeen, as wel as Stikine. Both the U. S. Board on Geographic Names and the Geografic Board of Canada concur to recomend Stikine. Other spelings ar left to disappear from non use, the principal benefit of having Preferd Spelings.

†† A good rule, "Don't slur i, e, ō, ū," (alredy promulgated in *HERALD*, Jan., 1899) goes to sho that the second sylabl in Stikin is strong. This wil lead to proper orthoepy. When orthograpy and orthoepy ar mutually deducibl for most words, that orthograpy is, in effect, fonetic.

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