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The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

3^D YEAR.

TORONTO, CANADA, NOV., 1887.

N^o. 29.

—St Louis is a cosmopolitan city. Midway between East and West, North and South, the elements meet, mingl and blend. Here is the forener from frozn Norway to suny Italy. For haf a generation all our children hav been taut fonetically, and the result is that brogues and foren accents ar so thoroly eradicated that a stranger can not tel the latitude or nationality from which children come.—St. Louis *F. Teacher.*

—Max Müller sez: “Riting [in thesens Orthograpy, we tak it] wez never intended tu fotograf spokn languejes; it wez ment tu indicat, not tu pant sounds..... A pre-Rafaelit minytnes ma destroy the very object ev the pictur. Languej dels in bred culers, and riting et tu folo the exampl ev languej, which tho it alowz an endles variety ev pronunsiashn, restricts itself fer its on purpos, fer the purpos ev expresing thet in el its modificashns, tu a very limited number ev typical vowels and consonants.”

—From J. H. K.: “The most presing nesesity is a complet alfabet. Nu leters must not luk lik strenjers and foreners, but must hav a family liknes tu old leters. An alfabet is not exsted ev yusfulnes in indicating rit pronunsiashn: it is helpful in indicating mispronunsiashn.In yus ev leters, we must

relinquish personal preferenses and pet fansis that du not in a reznabl tim comend themselvs tu jeneral acseptans, and must study practical agrément. We shud accept alfabet ev S. R. A. so far as it goz. It is insufishent. Tu restrict us tu it wud put an end tu Speling Reform, becoz disfigurment ev diacritic marks wud be intolerabl in buks and papers, and ther yus in script hindering and trublsom.It is dificult tu find a gud sin fer ce. I dout evnything beter than yur Ee being oferd. It is a familiar form; its nem givs its power; it is unequivocal; it extends tu wun mor leter the desirabl fetur ev clos resemlans betwen capital and loer ces leters. The script form (Ee) is lik the tip and is ezily mad. The sin e has not ben put tu so gud yus befor... I agre with Dr. Her that yur shep Uu iz beter than u fer oo; and go farther: seing it et tu be accepted az final—wun ev the hapiest sujet-yuns yet mad.”

REVISED SPELLING: 1. Omit evry useles leter.
2. CHANGE: *d* to *t*, *ph* to *f*, *gh* to *f*, if sounded so. These rules ar justified by Revision of Speling (now in progres). Such speling is to be proford, just as the Revised Translation of the Bible is preferred to that of 1611.

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GEOGRAFIC NAMES.

It has long been a difficulty, alike with child and adult, how to spel geografic names, or how to pronounce them when spelt. This wil in future be done away, to some extent, by recent action of Geografic Society, which has setld down to spel familiar names as already establish but new names or names ritn for first time, ar to folo certn laws, which, broadly stated, ar: Besides use of accent mark, USE VOWELS AS IN ITALIAN, CONSONANTS AS IN ENGLISH. Hitherto, it has been a puzl how to represent new names. Accordingly ther has been great diversity with diferent nations. This has been especyaly tru in our language as to vowels, which hav in our orthografy such variabl values that hardly any two wud be led to pronounce a name alike if givn such values. Ther is litl dout that Italian, perhaps German, vowel values ar best. Whether values comonly givn our consonants ar best is doubtful. They indicate national predilections. We wait to see how her nations, as voist by their Geografic Societis, wil agree to this. If they do, it may be taken as setld so far as geografy goes. The same reasons wil setl it the same way for other purposes. These rules ar identical with those adopted for the Admiralty charts, and wil henceforth be used in all publications of the Society. The foloing extract from *Ill. Misionary News* wil furnish exampls:

"The letters *b, d, j, l, m, n, p, r, s, t, v, w, x* and *z* hav the same sounds as in English. *Y* is always a consonant, as in *yard*, and shud never be used as a terminal.

The amplification of a few rules is givn belo:

A—*ah*, a as in *father*: Java, Barána.

E—*eh*, e as in *benefit*: Tel-el-Kebir, Oléleh, Yezo, Medina, Levúka, Peru.

I—*i* as in *ravine*; the sound of *ee* as in *beet*. Thus, not *Fecjee*, but Fiji, Hindi.

O—*o* as in *mote*: Tokio.

U—long *u* as in *flute*; the sound of *oo* in *boot*. Thus, not *Zooloo*, but Zulu, Sumatra.

All vowels ar shortnd in sound by dubling the foloing consonant: Yarra, Tanna, Mecca, Jidda, Bonny.

Dubling a vowel is only necessary where ther is a distinct repetition of the singl sound: Nuuláa, Oosima.

AI—*i* as in *ice*: Shanghai.

AU—*ow* as in *how*. Thus, not *Foochow*, but Fuchau.

AO—is slightly diferent from the above: Macao.

EI—is the sound of two Italian vowels, but is frequently slurd over, when it is

scarcely to be distinguisht from *ey* in *they*; Beirut, Beilul.

C—is always soft, but is so nearly the sound of *s* that it shud be seldom used: Celebes. (If *Celeb s* was not already recoginized it wud be ritn *Selebes*.)

CH—is always soft as in *Church*; Chingchin.

F—*Ph* shud not be used for *f*. Thus, not *Haiph ng*, but Haifong, Nafa.

G—is always hard: Galápagos. (Soft *g* is givn by *j*.)

H—is always pronounst when inserted.

J—English *j*. *Dj* shud never be put for this sound: Japan, Jínchen.

K—shud always be put for hard *c*. Thus, not *Corea*, but Korea.

KH—the Oriental gutural: Khan.

GH—is another gutural, as in Turkish: Dagh, Ghazi."

—The Filologic Section of Canadian Institute was organized late last winter. It is getting fairly down to regular work this winter. It meets fortnightly, Monday, 20 o'clock, at 46 Richmond St. E., in bilding of Institute. In all linguistic work, speech-analysis, otherwise calld vocal fysiology or fonetics, is of elementary importnce, as much so as anatomy to the surgeon. Spoken sounds ar elements with which the filologist has to deal. Accordingly, the ground-work of speech-analysis must be gon over at start. Most members see necessity for this. So the two meetings for November wer to begin the subject systematicaly. We ar glad that this yung graft on the trunk of the Institute is of such promising growth. The Institute itself looks bak on nearly forty years of creditabl scientific work. The Filologic section wil represent the *scientific* side of the question, which is distinct from the *popular* side, or that which deals with the popular promulgation of principls and practices belonging to Amended Speling. The two ar quite separat. The *educational* side is midway between the other two, looking to both for guidance as to what medium cours it shud pursu. A popular body to be calld the Am. Sp. Asoc'n is the need of the our.

LUV YUR WURK.

A! how skilful groz the hand
That obaeth luv's comand!
It is the hart, and not the bran,
That tu the hiest duth aten,
And he hu foloeth luv's behest
Far ecseleth el the rest.

—Lengfelo.

KEY: a a e e i i e o o u u u
az in art at ale ell eel I or ox no up put ooze

WHY AND HOW FAR TO MEND SP.

The aim in recommending an amended spelling, that can be easily aquired and applied, is especially to lessn ignorance prevailing among foreners and poorer clases of this cuntry, caused by not being able to read and rite; and this, becaus they canot afford time which the sensles spelling of English requires for such an ability.

Of the fifty millions in U. S. in 1880, the census states that of persons who can neither rite nor read, ther ar one and three-fifths milion men, two milions wimen, and two milions minors over ten years of age; making five and three-fifths milions. But it may be safely aserted that out of the hole population over twenty years of age, not more than one-fourth can read and rite with facility.....

Perfect fonetic representation of speech is imposibl; and the nearest posibl and most complete is, under present circumstances, [popularly] impracticabl. Therefore, tho a vowel-letter is intended to indicate a standard sound, in actual pronunciation the vowel is expected to sway to either side of its standard place, yet without trespassing on its neighbor.

No system of spelling can be so simpl but that it needs to be taut and governd by rules. The plausibility "Rite as yu pronounce" is crude and impracticabl.

Natural antipathy against altering a habitual form requires that as much of the present form and appearance of a word as practicabl fonetically shud be retaind.

The fact that a sound is influenst by the adjoining sound shud be taken advantage of in simplifying rules of spelling: Especially that when two consonants come together, the pronunciation of the first determins sharpness or flatnes in the other.—KNUDSEN in *Appendix to Dictionary*.

ARKANSAS & CHEYENNE.—It is exasperating to explain and apologize evry time one pronounces this word correctly in intelligent New England circls, where the later and improper pronunciation was invented. The State Legislature ofically declared the final sylabl to hav the sound *-saw*, not *-sass*; the inhabitants, from earliest setlmnts, to say nothing of peopl of Luisiana, of which Arkansas was once a part, always pronounst it *-saw*. Ther is no authority for *-sass* generally givn. The word is an attempt on the part of French misionaris to spel in French the name of a tribe of Indians. No Frenchman wud ever pronounce it as taut by New Englanders. The final *s* was and is silent, and the *a* has nasal *aw*, comon in French. Old comparativists, who, regardles of inconsistency of English spelling, always inquire 'if Arkansas is Arkansaw, why is not Kansas Kansaw,' may be glad to lern that Kansas

was *Kansaw*, and erly Anglo-American travelers so pronounst it, and even attempted to spel it fonetically, as can be seen in report of Lieut. Long's expedition to Roky Mountns, 1819-1821, where it is speld *Konza*. *Chien*, originally aplied to; Indians from their system of police, I believ, ment literaly 'Dog Indians,' and graces rivers, counitis, citis, and mountns of our maps, as *Cheyenne*—plausibl illustration of Yankee fonetic pronounciation of a French-speld word. 'Arkansaw' may be difcult to say, and may fall hevily on our ears, but it is proper all the same. The sooner 'Arkansas' is abolisht the beter for our consistency."—R. T. HILL in *Science*.—I am pretly wel convinst that the mispronunciation was the invention of a clas of scool teachers whose training for teaching "Eng. branches" is so specialized as to carefully exclude evrything relating to foren languages including even English. Not a few other exampls might be quoted of similar "scoolma'am" pronounciations. "Glou-ces-ter and Worcester ar begining to replace the proper sounds among yunger generation of comon-school scolars in New England, at least, and "Norwich" and "Harwich" ar wel established. It seems to me that we realy do need more such protests as Mr. Hill's before the rage for Anglicizing does away with historic pronounciation of more of our geografic names. As to Cheyenne, I suspect Mr. Hill has laid blame on rong sholders. How western plainsmen (who, one wud suppose, wud hav inherited correct pronounciation from the old *coveurs de bois*) came to call the "Dog-Soldier" band of Indians "Shyens," insted of *chiens*, I canot say. I do no, however, that this was the establisht plains pronounciation. We can scarcely blame New England lexicografers, or whoever first rote it, for failing to recognize the French word under the universal western pronounciation.—J. MURDOC, *Ibid*.

Æ AND Æ.—Those who no the hole history of spelling from 8th cent. to present time best understand the harm done by the pernicious system of trying to transplant Latin and Greek symbols. Æ and æ ar best avoided. Indeed, this is done in practice when once a word becomes comon. *Æther* and *athereal* hav been sensibly replast by *ether* and *ethereal*. No one now rites *aternal*, *Solæcism* is now *solécism*, and I trust that *primeval* and *medieval* wil soon prevail over *primæval* and *mediæval*. Pedantic spellings ar most objectionabl becaus useles and unfonetic.—PROF. SKEAT, in *Notes and Queries*. We hartily agree with Prof. Skeat, and trust that *diarrhœa*, *leucorrhœa*, *dysmenorrhœa*, &c., wil soon giv place to *diarrhea*, *leucorrhea*, *dysmenorrhea*, &c.—*British Medical Journal*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

KNUDSEN'S ORTHOGRAFY.

SIR,—I have receivd Mr. Knudsen's litl Primer (which yu notist four months ago), with his request to send opinion of alfabet and mode of using it.

Points of Agreement: (1) I am glad to find A B C order folod in alfabet, p. 73. I see no advantage but evry disadvantage in departing from this order in presenting an amended or enlarged alfabet. (2) I am pleased to see existing consonant digrafs ch, sh, th, in their present values, without a ligature, which is neither necessary nor sightly tho used by some Americans. I don't find ng in alfabet, altho in the text—perhaps an oversight. (3) Dh and zh ar adopted, tho for dh the alternativ th (with t crosst twice) is used. Ther ar many reasons in favor of dh, as distinctnes, suggestivnes, & ease to printers, and so many objections on all these grounds to other symbols, that I wud suport exclusiv use of dh. This, I fancy, is almost the universal view in England. (4) He retains c, k, x, qu, for the same sound—a very large departure from the principl of one symbol for each sound, to preserv closer resemblance of new to old speling. I hav resemgly contended for this importnt and valuabl principl. I am not fully satisfied as to keeping x and qu, but feel that c and k must be kept. X and qu ar used rarely compared with c and k. (5) I entirely agree with pronunciation givn. [A good omen that vesel need not be rekt on rok of cis-Atlantic and trans-Atlantic differences in orthoepy.]

Points of Diference: (1) To promote harmony, cud not ei, eu, oi, ou be used as alternatvs for i, u, ei, ou. The elements of ei and ou especially ar maters of controversy. With consonants we don't analyze: ch is not c and h, th is not t and h; but ar arbitrary combinations. Why not do the same with vowels? (2) The use of o for vowel in nut, which is then ritn "not," is a delicat point. In shorthand, vowel in nut is paird with that in note—a necessity in shorthand, a fatal mistake in fonetic print. Has Mr. K. not been led astray by desire to make vowels pair? (3) Insted of a', i', o', u', I prefer the mark of length over a, i, o, u (thus, ā.) 4. For vowel in moon, oo is wel adapted.

It is more importnt that we agree than that the scheme shud be theoretically perfect. Can we not get closer agreement? For this, ther must be giv and take on both sides

Liverpool, Eng.

E. JONES.

"TUBB BUTTER."

SIR,—The above appears in a grocer's shop on Yong St. The educated laf; but why not "tubb" as wel as "butt"?

How do yu distinguish between *coud* and *cud* (which is *chewd*)? Yu spel the former *cud*. How between *stood*, past participi, and *stud*, a movabl shirt butn?

Toronto.

M. L. Rous.

[Cud, cud; stud, stud.—Ed.]

AMENDED SPELING & ETYMOLOGY.

[The folowing was ritn by Prof. Skeat, the author of the best Etymologic Dictionary now in the market, one universally referd to and quoted. It appears in the *Christian World* as ordinary correspondence.]

The usual favorit cry about our modern speling being "etymological," is really a delusion. No one who has really studid Tudor-English, Middle-English, Anglo-Saxon, and Anglo-French, maintains such a position any longer. Those who wish to defend our present system of speling can do so logically *on one ground only*, viz, that great inconvenience will be caused by the change. This is the sole question really before us—Wil the inconvenience be greater than the gain? And the difficulty really resides in the fact that it is imposibl to no the anser til the change has been universally made. Most arguments ar of litl service, because they ar founded upon imaginary results which may, or may not, be tru.

Whether we shal ever get a tru speling reform, is doubtful. If so, it wil come from America. For, if once acomplisht there, it wil not be difficult to adopt the results here. However, my present object is merely to sho that the argument from etymology had far beter be givn up. Those who use this argument weakn their case by ignorant statements, which crumbl when handld. Many, for exampl, ar unware of the fact, that a large number of words hav suferd "speling reform" already. Thus the words *abridge*, *advise*, *advise*, *anneal*, *appeal*, *appear*, *appease*, *appraise*, *apprentice*, *apprize*, *approach*, *arrear*, *astray*, *assail*, *assay*, *assets*, *assize*, *attain*, *avail*, *average*, *avoid*, *avouch*, *avow*, and a very large number of similar words ar spelt precisely as they ar pronounst, tho the varius methods of representing the sounds to the eye ar clumsy and confused; and they ar some of them so far from presenting an obvius etymology that most peopl wud not no from what they ar derived without help. In *assets*, for exampl, the *ts* is the fonetic way of expresing the old French *z*; and such spelings as *abridge*, *anneal*, *apprize*, &c., may be very good English, but they ar also very bad French. Still les do they suggest Latin, *brevis*, *niger*, or *prehendere*. My advice to those who use the "etymological" argument is that they shud first lern fonology and the history of language, that they may at least hav some idea as to what they ar talking about.

WALTER W. SKEAT.