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The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

3^d YEAR.

TORONTO, CANADA, JAN., 1887.

NR 21.

S G M XV.

Lerd, hu 'z the hapi man that me tu Thī blest corts repær,
Not, stranjer-lik, tu vizit them, but tu inhabit thær;
'Tiz he huz evri thet and wærd bī rulz øv værtu, muvz
Huz jen'rus tung disdanz tu spek the thing hiz hart dispruvz;
Hu never did a slander forj hiz nabor'z fam tu wound,
Ner harkn tu a føls report bī malis hwisperd round;
Hu vis, in øl its pømp and pouer, can tret with just neglect,
And pīeti, tho clothd in ragz, relijusli respect;
Hu tu his plited vouz and trust haz ever fømli stud,
And, tho he promis tu hiz los, he meks hiz promis gud;
Huz sol in yuzurī disdanz hiz trezur tu emploi;
Hum no rewordz can ever brib the gittles tu destrøi.
The man hu bī this stedi cors haz hapines enshurd
Tho ørth's foundashun'z shæk, shal stand, bī Providens securd.

—In rendering the abuv Sam, a wæ øv discriminating the vou-
elz in 'care' and 'her' haz ben yuzd. The notashun empleid
düz not conflict with our yus øv the letrz uthewiz, but iz in
harmoni, and so permits øv opshunal yus bī thoz hu urj it.
It puzzl us that evri exampl givn ocurz in a wurd with 'r' after
the vouel, the 'r' bring rther final ør folod imediatli bī a conson-
ant. We belv 'r' the cøz øv the diferens proclamd and hold
that 'r' final ør with consonant sufishmentli denots it. The point
iz considerd az stil opn.

—The proper shap for v. in 'eel' iz midwæ betwen e and æ,
espeshali wenting the stifnes øv the former, yet stil an i-shap.

KE,—Sound ech letr belo lik the vouel in the wurd under it:
Aa Aa Ee Ee Ii Ii Oo Oo Uu Uu Uu
at art ale ell eel ill I ox or no up put rule.
Opshunal contracshunz: Uu fer yu, ør yu; Xx fer ks, ør gz.

Amended Spelling Department.

REVISED SPELLING; 1. OMIT every vowel later.
2. CHANGE *d* to *t*, *ph* to *f*, *gh* to *g*, if sounded so. These rules are justified by Revision of Spelling (now in progress). Such spelling is to be preferred, just as the Revised Translation of the Bible is preferred to that of 1611.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PAIRED VOWELS.

SIR,—The article in your last on Paired Vowels seems misleading in some particulars. Phonographers will never believe, as there asserted, that the vowels in *ill* and *eel* are natural pairs. Dwell as long as you will on *ill* and you can never make *eel* of it. There is no real short sound of *e* (as in *eel*) used in English, although it is somewhat shorter in *week* and *leek* than in *weak* or *sneak*. By pronouncing the first pair of words somewhat shorter than is proper, the true short sound of *e* (as in *eel*) will be heard, but even then the words will not sound like *wick* and *lick*.

The riter of the article speaks of leaving the vowels "in *at* and *naught* unmated, as they shud be." I believe, with Pitman, that those vowels are paired by those in *father* and *not* respectively, and so truly that no man can put them asunder.

In several other pairs I cannot quite agree with Pitman. The *h* sound, for example, is, to my ear, as clear and distinct in *hvine* as the *t* in *twine*. I think his analysis of the diphthong in *aisle* faulty. Still, Major Powell and all of us may take lessons in analysis of English from the old gentleman.

JOHN WATSON.

Catonsville, Md.

[Our correspondent is right, from his stand-point; we are right from ours. Both agree when the fog is cleared away by the wind of explanation. No one of the twelve vowel pairs exactly with any other. What is meant by an exact pair? Two vowels are exact pairs when they differ in *quantity* only and not in *quality*. Our correspondent confounds *quality* and *quantity*. Two vowels are (not exact, but *approximate*) pairs when their *quality* is not too wide apart. Two males or two females shud not mate; but a male and a female may constitute a well-mated pair, if, differing in some respects, they are otherwise adapted, as being of the same race, like age, &c. For a young Caucasian to mate with an old African is not pairing, but is first and unnatural union. Now, if the twelve vowels be left to seek natural affinities, how will they pair? Let preconceived notions be laid aside— notions born of the necessity for brevity in shorthand, as explained last month. We still believe that revision of vowel relations will show that four do not mate, from a phonologic stand-

point, and in strict truth, although necessity (which no law) may still make it expedient to so pair them as to Shorthand, dots, and dashes. The four unmated are those *no*, *at*, *up*, or; the four mates are

1. Those in *ill* and *eel*;
2. " *all* " *ale*;
3. " *not* " *father*;
4. " *pool* " *pool*.—[EDITOR.]

THE VOWEL IN *her*.

SIR,—I hold that the vowels in *met*, *up*, and *her* differ in quality. Had I your ear for two minutes, you shud hear:

1. *u* in *hurry*, *curry*, &c.
2. *æ* in *her*, *clergy*, *cur*, &c.
3. *e* in *heresy*, *clerical*, &c.

and the *r* also clearly as any born Paddy can give it; and then you shud hear the vowels only, the remainder of each word being suppressed. It wud be silly and misleading in me to affirm (as you suppose I do in your last issue) that the second vowel above was heard only in the faulty speech of persons who habitually drop *rs*. It is not a difference of *quantity*, *length*, *prolongation*, but of *quality*; and requires a different position and functioning of the vocal mechanism, which I take to be the true test of vowel distinction. If I suspected myself of contending for a fancy vowel, even a shade vowel, or a finicky notion, I wud "dry up" and stay dried on this matter.

J. H. KIDDER.

Owego, N. Y.

HOW WE SPEAK.

A Filological section has recently been organized in the Canadian Institute. We clip an account of its first meeting from the *Toronto Daily Mail*. We copy less for the matter than for the manner of study inculcated. Rev. Dr. McCurdy was in the Chair.

"The first regular meeting of the Filological Section was held on Monday evening, the lecture room of the Institute being well filled. The subject was the physical basis of speech, the lecturer being Dr. Hamilton, of this city, who, confining himself merely to the gross anatomy and physiology of the organs of vocal expression, succeeded in giving his audience a very clear idea of the complicated process of speaking. The following is an abstract of this very interesting and instructive lecture:

"This is the age of physical research. Almost all scientific work has now a physical basis. Great advances had been made in natural philosophy by means of experimental physics. Ambrose Paré was considered the father of modern surgery. His chief claim to the title was due to his having introduced the ligature as a means of stopping hemorrhage, whereas before Paré's day the cautery, actual and potential, was used, as the dipping of the bleeding stump after amputation into boiling oil to arrest the bleeding. The ligature is a rational means of stopping bleeding, based on partial knowledge of the circulation of the blood, later fully proclaimed by Harvey, after his studies in Padua.

The mode of work of Vesalius, dissecting in a garret, was recalled to mind. Vesalius thus became the father of modern anatomy. Ernestus shud characterized the work done. Most students in this cuntry ar too litt in earnest. Hence we ar hiall to be surpasst by German earnest, ploding methods of work. In considering human anatomy we shud not neglect comparativ anatomy, as the two lie side by side, each throwing light on the other. The object of this adress is to give in outline the gros anatomy of the vocal apparatus with an introduction to the fysiolygy of the same fysiolygy being the organs in action, while anatomy delt with them as recently dpt. The fysiolygy to be considerd here is but a part of the fysiolygy of the part— that entitled by German scientists as *strophylotologic*. The organs in question ar those of a combined machine that is, a machine most wonderfully adapted to perform several important functions besides those of speech, as mastication, deglutition and respiration. It is also the seat of two of our five special senses, namely, those of smel, the olfactory nerv being distributed to the nose, and that of taste by the gustatory nerv. The several parts and their action extend from the nose to the diafram inclusiv. The nose includes the three turbinatd bones; the mouth, the hard and soft palat, alveolar processes and teeth. He described the farynx with its three constrictors, the epiglottis, the cartilages of the larynx with the tru and fals vocal cords, the windpipe, the lungs which contain elastic tissue and ar moved by the costal muscl, as well as the diaphragmatic muscl. The phenomena of hiccup, snoring, yawning and whistling wer explaind. The necessity of comparativ perfection in the apparatus was dwelt on, and the effects explaind when due to defects, congenital as in cleft palat, or aquired, as in injury or paralysis of vocal cords, or soft palat. The tension of the vocal cords was explaind and how pitch was produst in both singing and music. Two to two-and-a-haf octaves is the compas of any singl human voice. Three octaves and over wer fenomenaly rare. From the loest bass voice to the highest possibl soprano was about five octaves. The reason why female voices ar of higher pitch is due to their shorter vocal cords, as is tru of boys before puberty. The old lady with the pants shrilld from atrophy has a voice of an shrill in its high pitch. The human voice may be compared to an organ, the porte-vent or wind carrier being the windpipe, the vocal cords the reeds, and the farynx, nose and mouth above, the resonance tube. The soft palat closes the nose and leaves the mouth open, or closes the latr to allow the breth to pas by the nose. The vowels hav, when pronounst naturally, a pitch, each of its own, so that they can be aranged in an ascending or descending scale. The most open is a, as in *far*, while i, as in *machine*, is high in pitch but close, with a shortnd resonance tube; again u, as in *rule*, is close, but the tube is long, about two inches longer than for i. Between a and i we hav e, as in *they*, which is intermediate both in pitch and closeness; and between a and u we hav, in like manner, o. Hence the order of the Roman vowels, e, i, o, u, if given the continental pronunciation, is, in descending order, i, e, a, o, u. The reason why these five ar so much bettr adapted to expres pronunciation when used with continental values insted of their contradictory English ones is that they thus so fairly divide up the scale. These ar the pure vowels which, with those allied to them, about twelv in all, ar pronounst thru the mouth, the soft palat being raisd to close the nose. Then we hav the nasals m, n, ng. In nasalization, as found in French and Portugese, the closure of the nose for the pure vowels is imperfect, which explains the phenomenon. An imperfect raising of the soft palat, for general speech gives the nasal "twang" of the New Englander, or "Yankee," commonly non as "speaking thru the nose." Diphthongs ar not thoun of two vowels, which is an impossibility. They ar singl sounds;

but during uterance the position of the tung and other parts in the resonance tube above the cords change so that the singl sound is herd differently at the end than at the beginning. The whole was illustrated by skull, wall diagrams, models and the use of the laryngoscope on living subjects.

A WONDERFUL ARGUMENT.

We find in *The Versity* a weekly journal, publisht at Toronto, Ontario, in the interest of Toronto University, a wonderful argument for the perpetual retention of the "pr" arbitrary rules of English spelling. "It is a sademing reflection," says our contemporary, "that ther shud be men, our brothers, whose lins shud be stiffd by day-long labor of body, and into whose minds no light shines thru their lives; but the desire to uterly obliterate whatever may in any way sory to distinguish the man of culture from his literat brother must be lookt on in no other light than as one of the many manifestations of that misty socialism which is clouding so many minds to-day." Here is intellectual snobery with a vengeance. Forsooth, we must keep up a difficult and arbitrary mode of spelling in order that the poor man may spel badly, and so be distinguisht from the man of culture! When we first began to read about those unhappy men, "our brothers," whose lins were stiffd by toil, and whose lives wer so destitute of light, we tho't the editor of *The Versity* was about to come forward with some chivalrous scheme for diminishing their burdens and hoping the light to penetrate into the dark places. But, no; his cry is, "Keep them down! They can never learn to spel English according to present rules; so let us see to it that we, the nurslings of culture, the children of light, resist all attempts to introduce any simpler, even the more scientific and more filological, system of spelling. Otherwise what wil ther be to distinguish us intellectually from those poor, toil-stiffd creatures?" One is tempted to say in reply that, if superiority in the matr of spelling is needed to distinguish men of culture from men destitute of culture, then culture itself must be a very poor and unsubstantial thing. Imagin, for a moment, two men, one of whom has had a university education, while the other has livd such a life of bodily toil that no light has shon into his mind; and then imagin, further, the gentleman of the first part asking that spelling may be kept a difficult and mysterious art, in order that ther may be something to distinguish him from his utterat brother, whose condition, however, he hasens to say, excites his profound sympathy! The thing is most ridiculus; but in so far as it may be held to indicate the spirit in which university journals ar conducted, it has its serious and lamentable side. A university sustaind by public moneys shud hav as its one great object the rendering of service to the community as a whole. If it can only train a limited clas, that clas shud look upon themselves as trustees for the hole peopl of the superior advantages their education confers upon them. Why shud public moneys be spent in making A. B. a particularly intelligent and accomplished man, if he is going to put on fine intellectual airs, and even ask for special protection against the unletrd multitude? In this matr we hav not yet got down to "hard pan," but we must get down to it. We ar no advocates of a "misty socialism;" but we do not only advocate but demand the strict and scrupulous appropriation of public moneys to public purposes in the very widest sens of the term. To establish a system of intellectual cast is not a public purpos nor a social purpos, but an anti-social one. Let men who want to strut in intellectual broadcloth find their flnory for themselves; but when a great educational institution has been created by the aid of public funds, let those who avail themselves of its advantages recognize that they ar calld to a ministry of public usefulness, and that it is theirs to see that, in some way, the toiling

classes got a share of the benefits provided. Never shall we have a society worthy of the name until those who have—whether in a material or an intellectual sense—are actuated by a sense of duty toward those who have not. When that day comes we shall not hear it urged, as an argument for the retention of a difficult system of spelling, that it serves as a convenient mode of distinguishing the cultured from the uncultured classes. In that day, too, culture will probably mean something more than the ability to spell. It will be a thing of ideas and of real knowledge, a thing expansive by nature, and in the best sense of the word democratic. We should strongly advise the universities of to-day to prepare for the new culture of the future, and meantime to do their best to purge themselves thoroughly of that spirit of exclusiveness so plainly manifested in that passage quoted from *TheVarsity*, and of which it probably would not be difficult to glean examples in other similar quarters.—*Popular Science Monthly*.

In an article, which we reproduce elsewhere, the *Popular Science Monthly*, takes the *Varsity* over its neck and administers a richly merited castigation. The *Varsity* is "run" by University students, and consequently by young men who are getting their education at the expense of the taxpayers of Ontario. We don't care to enter into a controversy about spelling reform, but it will take something more than a correct knowledge of the intricate rules of English orthography, learned at the expense of the taxpayers, to transform the "culchawd" little dudes of the *Varsity* into a class superior to the rest of the community. Let us hope as they grow older they will get wiser.—*Labor Reformer*.

[We have often met silly arguments but that of *TheVarsity* is so far the silliest ever met. An undergraduate dude, with gown on, but with an ass' head surmounted by a fool's cap being well slipped across the neck of Dame Science, with *Labor* looking on approvingly, "his limbs stiffed with toil," of course, would make a rich cut for a comic journal.—ED.]

GARMENT AND SUBSTANCE OF THO'T.

BY L. R. KLEMM, PH.D., HAMILTON, OHIO.

Why is it, that the eight years' course of an American Common School yields far less fruit than a course of six or seven years in a German Volksschule? Why is it that pupils in the Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus and Hamilton schools, who have daily lessons in German beside their other English studies, are no whit behind their schoolmates who aim to a common English education only? It is no enigma for any one who comprehends the peculiar difficulties the English language affords. Reading and spelling English are very difficult to learn. After the first year, there is literally no more difficulty in the mechanical part of reading for a child in Germany. But think of the enormous amount of time and energy the English and American child has to expend in trying to master the mere garment of the *tho't* of others. It finds little time and energy left for the substance of *tho't*. The German language offers no obstacles in orthography, such as are found in English. The latter is full of pitfalls. Look at any of the numerous courses of study for

primary and intermediate grades. There we find reading, spelling, writing, grammar, and composition; all these have reference to the garment and the forms of *tho't*. Then we find geography, arithmetic and a small pelet of home history; these in a measure offer substance of or material for *tho't*. When any one suggests that natural history, physics, physiology and general history be inserted in the curriculum (all of which, by the way, are taught in the intermediate grades of German schools, only to a limited extent, of course), wiseacres raise the cry of overpressure, and justly so, perhaps. Are our children and children's children forever condemned to suffer from the iniquities of English orthography? Must they lose or waste precious years in early youth in learning to wield the un-erly instrument of English spelling? Think of the time and energy which might be saved if we rote as we pronounce no more and no less.—*The Carolina Teacher*.

ENGLISH AS SHE IS SPELT

He came to the sanctuary one night,
The place where the editors wrought;
He was hungry, he said,
And he wanted some bread,
Would be glad to get even a bight.

His case was a hard one, no doubt,
So some of the boys went about,
And raised him a sum
That for some time to eun
Would keep him, and then he went out.
—*Boston Courier*.

-- *B* is etymologically wrong in *debt*, *doubt*, *subtle*, which come from the Old French *dete doute, sutil*, these being also the older English spellings. The *b* in *-mb* is etymologically useless, having often been added without reason, as in *limb*, but Old English *lim*.

<i>bomb</i>	<i>bom</i>	<i>numb</i>	<i>nun</i>
<i>crumb</i>	<i>crum</i>	<i>plumb</i>	<i>pluu</i>
<i>debt</i>	<i>det</i>	<i>plumber</i>	<i>plummer</i>
<i>debtor</i>	<i>detter</i>	<i>redoubt</i>	<i>redout</i>
<i>doubt</i>	<i>dout</i>	<i>subtle</i>	<i>sutl</i>
<i>dumb</i>	<i>dum</i>	<i>succumb</i>	<i>succum</i>
<i>lamb</i>	<i>lam</i>	<i>thumb</i>	<i>thum</i>
<i>limb</i>	<i>lim</i>		

Detter is a frequent Tudor spelling; *b* is un-historical in *crumb* (O. E. *cruma*), *limb* (O. E. *lim*), *numb*, *plumb* (O. French *plum*, compare *plummet*), *thumb* (O. E. *thuma*).—*Transactions of Philologic Society*.

— Nothing is more common in filology than to see men, who have not taken the slightest trouble to make themselves acquainted with the rudiments of vocal physiology, making the boldest and most dogmatic statements about the pronunciation of dead languages—asserting, for instance, that certain sounds are unnatural, or even impossible, merely because they do not happen to occur in their own language. Such prejudices can only be got rid of by a wide and impartial training.—*Sweet*.

— *Sirup* and *Syrup* are both now current. Of the two, Webster prefers *Sirup*.