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The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

VOL. II, 20.

TORONTO, CANADA, October, 1901.

N^R. 70.

A TRIPL FORCE.

(1) Personal efforts of sp. reformers is most efectiv. The archbishop of Canterbury urged this at the sp. reform conference (London, 1877), modifications to be of minimum character. Wer this done by all its frends, the reform cud not be laft down. Each rites at least a leter a week, or fifty a year. Wer all ritn, as far as expedient, on the lines: "Omit useles letters," they wud do good misionary work. No handbooks ar needed, nor wud epistls caus dout in minds of recipients. Even a novice can conform; how much easier the elect. Wer professors to modify their spelling it wud strengthen the les ilustrios, so working a levening influence.

(2) As Fasion comes from Paris, so may the fasion of spelling rationally come from printers, wer they les conservativ, les rigid. They adhere to "Rules of the Office" as if they embraced the decalog. Authors find it extremely dificult to get the least deviation from orthodoxy. Why shud this be? If a footnote certified the spelling was the author's, as the ideas ar his, the printer's consience o't to be at rest. Is it too much to ask printers, compositers, proofreaders, etc., in their individual or colectiv sferes, to exercise sympathetic influence in direction of reform? If they did so, readers wud setl down to the inovations, as a lady to a new bonet.

(3) "The reform shud begin with the yung at school," say theoreticsympathizers. Wil teachers venture, and rid themselvs and pupils of much labor, time and expense by teaching spelings not shoking to childhood's unsophisticated reason? Twud be a national blessing wer they

"to take arms aguinst a sea of troubles" surrounding orthograpy. Improved methods ofn engage their attention: what beter instrument than purified orthograpy? It is the one thing laking. Wil they aply it?

Personal influence is great, the teacher's is greater, the printer's greater stil, greatest of all is the three in unity.

H. DRUMMOND.

—This invites *you* to subscribe.

NEWS-NOTES AND COMENTS.

—Leter postage from British Isles to Canada is now (not 2½d, but) only a penny.

—A study of spoken (colloquial) Japanese is in hand for intended publication by E. R. Edwards, now in Tokyo.

—*The School Journal*, a long establishit weekly (New York and Chicago \$2 a year) puts in practis: thru, catalog, thoroly, dialog, altho, center, and others.

—"Traffick" was how they spelt it in the 18th century, "Traffic" was prevalent in the 19th. Shud "trafic" prevail in the 20th, wud the hevns fall, the erth fly off its axis, and all things rush hedlong to eternal smash?

—Mr J. M. Mott receivd onorabl mention at the Paris Exposition for his fonetic alfabet with specimens of its application to sevrall languages. He is now busy getting out a treatis on orthoepy for use of teachers and students.

—"Foneloji and Fonotaip" is to be the title of Mr Mott's new book inscribed to teachers. We prefer the title *Fonetics and Fonotipi*, as of late fonology has come to cover historie or antiquarian fonetics and sound-shifting (see Sweet's *Hist. Lang.*, chap. ii), not ment by Mott. It is to be an 8vo page in large type set open, with fonetic rendering of text on right-hand page. This page-by-page reproduction is quite preirabl to a line-by-line one. K, q, x, ar rejected. 18 old consonants ar supplemented by 6 differentials of c, s, z, n, t, d—alternativs to ch, sh, zh, ng, th, dh. In these diferentials, taild n alone desends; the rest asend, and so ar in Javal's line of legibility (*HERALD*, i, p. 106), a great merit as oposed to demerit that taild n has with desenders (p, q, j, y) of both lo legibility and liability to hav tails broken, as evry printer soon lerns to his cost. Five vowels hav three diferentials aded: a circumflex over all givs 16 vowel signs. The book, now in pres, is to be wel printed, and shud serv to make pupils as wel as tutors think, perhaps argue—then conviction is sure to folo, becaus Old Speling is as indefensibl as wer the tenets of pagan Rome. "Get them to argue camly, then they'r gon" was an aforism put in practis by erly fathers of Cristianity. We trust Mott's book wil giv great impetus to propagandism, and incidentally help along solution of such vext questions as (a), (b), (c), stated on a preceding page (p. 74).

—"Rubing it in" is sometimes necessary: If readers wil turn to first colum on p. 69 they may read: "If wud-be reformers wud only asume that success depends on united action, they cud accomplish something." Shal another haf century be friterd away "hatching one scheme after another," orshal we setl down to unite thru adherence to establishit principls?

—Australian English is taking characteristics, tho dating only from the rush to the gold-fields fifty years ago. What Ellis calls "the first trustworthy account of Australian English" was furnisht him in Dec. 1887 by Mr Samuel McBurney, principal of the Ladies Colege at Geelong,

Victoria, who had traveled much about. It appeared in 1889 in Ellis' E.E.Pron., pages 1668 to 1680. It bears several striking likenesses to Londonese, for "in Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand there is more than a tinge of what is commonly called Cokny." Later observations by Mr J. M. Black, of Norwood, Adelaide, S. Aust., are in progress. We await intended publication with patience.

"What is the outlook in England for better spelling?" bro't this reply from Mr H. Hodder, Northampton: "Among scholars there is growing conviction as to need of change, but no practical steps are taken. I think the NEWSPAPER holds the key to the situation. I wish you good, shrewd American cousins much success, which, when you have achieved, we shall imitate a generation later. I enclose a clipping from London Daily Mail of 4th May, headed 'Improved English,' a good-natured criticism of Report on Variant Spellings in Ontario Educational Association. The Daily Mail is our most advanced paper, never weary of girding at British backwardness in industrial and commercial methods, but when our antiquated and unreasonable spelling is threatened there comes the cry: 'Woodman, spare that tree, such not a single bow, in youth it bothered me, yet I'll protect it now.'"

—Another statement of the British outlook is that of Mr H. Drummond, of Hetton-le-Hole, Eng., clipped from The Toronto World of 30th July: "Wud that we had in England a champion similar [to The World] with as much courage. All we can boast is the stanch attitude of The London Star and The Morning Leader, that venture to print program, labor, favor, color, valor, etc.; program finds acceptance in The Phonetic Journal, Sell's Commercial Intelligence, and in an evening paper in Liverpool, with occasional reference to the subject in the Schoolmaster, Journal of Education and Educational Times. I should feel elated did The Mail or The Express show farther signs of progress by adopting certain modifications of orthography. London would shudder for six weeks, then accept without much ado."

—"The English of the English" is in Harper's Monthly for August. It is by Julian Ralph, an American journalist representing The London Daily Mail in S. Africa in the war's start. It treats of different words (as to both vocabulary and orthography) in use in Britain and America to signify the same thing. Of spelling we are told: "It widens the difference between their speech and ours by reason of the spelling that obtains in their island. Every wagon has two g's. . . . Curb is spelled kerb, tire is tyre, a bank-check is cheque, and ribbon is still often spelled riband."

—At the meeting of School Superintendents (a department in the N. E. A.) in Chicago last winter, the motion (mentioned on p. 54) to give \$1000 a year for five years from the association's funds came up. It was to be devoted to propagandist work and paying expenses of a Council of twenty to direct and give counsel. The movement was endorsed by prominent educators, as President Harper (Univ. of Chicago) and Chancellor Andrews (Univ. of Nebraska). However, a long-tried, stanch advocate and friend of better spelling, Dr Wm T. Harris, Commissioner of Education, led opposition, mainly because it would not be legitimate so to apply association funds—lost (77 to 105).

—When the National Educational Association met in July at Detroit, a petition to the Board of Directors, signed by 29 prominent educational people, was tabled for a year, without debate. It asked to be allowed to organize a "Department of Simplified Spelling" as a department of the N. E. A. A partial canvas of the new Board gives hope for favorable action next year.

—An informal conference at Detroit of a few friends of spelling reform discussed how a fund can be raised to maintain a permanent clerk or secretary in the field under direction and authority

of a commission of eminent scholars and educators. Probably an effort will be made next winter to enlist the various State Teachers' Associations and see if they will not put (say) \$1200 into a common fund and appoint a committee to ask the National Educational Association next summer to add from its reserve at least an equal amount, creating the Commission referred to above and giving it the total fund to use as indicated. The importance was felt of maintaining this commission and fund long enough to accomplish something and possibly to inspire a wealthy philanthropist to endow the cause with a permanent income for sensible propaganda, but no plan was proposed except the one indicated above.

—The Dictionary article on p. 82 is complemented by some remarks: (1) Worcester's dictionary is undergoing thorough revision in Philadelphia. We have reason to hope that in this respect it will not be behind American rivals, but may lead.—(2) The editor of Chambers' dictionary has put himself on record in his preface (quoted on our page 45) as favoring amendment in principle, though not yet practicing such. (3) Murray's dictionary follows British usage mostly. It specifies preferred spellings in some cases, as it says (p. x of preface to vol. 1): "Where a decided reason of any kind exists for giving preference to a particular spelling, this is briefly stated at the end of the etymology; especially is this done in the few cases where the spelling preferred (e.g. ax, connexion, rime) is not that at present favored by preponderance of usage, but is intrinsically the best, and is therefore recommended."

—The Guide, of Port Hope, Ont., established as a weekly in 1830, and as a daily in 1878, now employs the twelve spellings of the N. E. A. THE HERALD was printed there at first.

—The Middlesboro (ugh) News, a local weekly established in 1880 at Middlesboro, Ky., has a large number of amended spellings, mostly commendable, but some are questionable.

TWO PROGRESSIVE "WORLDS."

The Medical World, a monthly published at 1520 Chestnut st., Philadelphia, Pa., by Dr C. F. Taylor, is the best practitioner of improved spelling that we know of. There is general change of -ed to t in suitable cases (as banisht), useless and misleading e at end of words like hostile, fertile, genuine, is dropped throughout, and numerous single words are bettered. This it goes on doing month by month consistently and (the best way) saying nothing about it beyond the brief explanation thereof kept standing on first page. Its example is bold but excellent.

The Toronto World, a morning daily established in 1880, again came to the front on 4th July last in a long editorial headed "Spelling Reform is Coming." In a broad survey, amid much else, it said:

"In England, the feature that strikes the colonial press is the mother country's backwardness to move in any progressive direction, especially one that would promote the empire's trade and commerce by improved spelling and decimalization of weights, measures and coinage. Reformed spelling would go far toward making the language the vehicle of all the world's commerce."

Disappointed by universities and philologists, ready to say and certify that amendment is desirable, even necessary, The World looks for doers of the same to

"newspapers and teachers of Motherland, U.

S. and Canada, who begin to take genuin interest in the movement. We predict that spelling reform wil come soon with a sweep."

Much imprest by its economy, we lern: "Economic reasons, we ar confident, wil force reformd spelling. . . . Oposition is worthy atension in some in-tances. Mainly it comes from clever Alecs badly red and altogether ignorant of the question who like to be lookt on as conservativ. Men who no most about the language, how it grew, aquired its presnt stereotyped form of spelling, who ar thoroly acquainted with sevrall tangs, largely favor reformd spelling."

CRITICAL SUGGESTIONS.

[The riter's spelling is folod herein.]

In the main i agree with your too sistems of spelling. Clearnes and consistency require a few modifications in each:

A.—IN REVIZED SPELLING

1. For the present, retain a dubl consonant after a strest short vowel, as *hopping*, *possess*, *addres* (noun), to avoid confusion with *hoping*, *poses*, *adress* (verb).

2. Retain obscure vowels if in slo or in careful speech they miht be sounded, as *open*, *wepon*, *certain*; but rite *givn*, *riin*, to sho shortnes of the preceding vowel.

3. Reject all useles letters, as in loth, balk, lanch, villan, donky, dout, mama, plesance, fry, esthetic, fetid, zelot, sismic, icon, mimograf, calidoscope, agreabl parlament, ges, bild, gard, gage, vitls, hiht, thoht (not tho't), stomac, gost, samon, semstres, ile, iland, each, du, coin, storis, slei, fashon, garot, vew, harth, cush, carrid, leag, harang, thisis, sord, sience, [k]no, [k]nown, rong, rek, ancor, clu, frend.

4. Put i for y vowel, as *tiro*, *sirup*, *sais*, *staid*, *sistem*, (exept y final, as *shy*, *shily*). [But how about *shines* for *shyness*?]

5. Change ch to k if sounded so before e, i, y, as *ake*, *arkitect*, *kliiogram*, *monarky*.

6. Change s to z in -ise, as *surprize*, *despize*; in distinctiv verbs, as *rize*, *uze*, *houz*; also in artizan, partizan, curtizan, teaz, cozy, advertizment, agrandizment.

7. Change ei or ie to ee when sounded i, as *beleev*, *receev*, *seez*.

8. Rite e for o sounded like e in *herd*, as *werd*, *werld*; keep o in *som*, *mony*, *poros*.

9. Rite oo for o sounded ū, as *moov*, *toom*.

10. Reduce peculiar spellings to order: ruf, cof, laf, draft, mosk, kee, hoo, shoo, bizy, looz, rime, sithe, tortus, begger, registrer, tung, sovrان, wimen, sizzers, markee, prair, coercion, controller, aker, atachee, calogram, pictur-esk, cinetoscope, oker, faker (one who fakes).

B.—IN SIENTIFIC (OR NEW) SPELLING

Uze k for c hard. Uze c for j = sh, (an alternativ for printers hoo hav no special signs), so j for z, q for η, x for χ. Then tc is for ch in *church*, dj for j in *judge*, dh for ð, th for þ, and i, ê, â, ô, û, for i, e, a, ô, ū, with à, è, ò, for vowels in *gun*, *fern*, *nor*, and any printer can set up fonetic orthog-rafy. Acute accents can be used for em-fasized short vowels as ádres, but non ar necessary exept where there miht be confusion, as in nót, nôt (*note*), nòt (*naught*), cip (*ship*), cip (*sheep*).

For special tipes i woud prefer æ to u; ɒ or ɔ for o in *nor*; ð for ð; u for ū; ø or œ for Ger. ö, French œ, (becaus ø and ø resembl o and e overlaid). [Wil this not make o, ø, e, c, impracticabl in one alfabet, as wanting distinctnes? Diferentiation is limited by this essential.] The first is important as the sound æ (u) is more akin to a than to u [in *put*]. In Romanized Indian names a is adopted for it, as in Lakhnau [læʃnau] (Lucknow), jangal (*jungle*), thag (thug, pron. t-hæg), lakir, Karâchi. Japanese werts ar in spelling absolutely sientific (tho jinrikisha is ignorantly spelt rickshaw by vulgar English pepl). So ar Maori (N. Z.) names. In India, China, elswhere too, New Spelling makes hed-way, as Panjâb, Maisur, Yang-tsz-kiang, Fuh-chau (not Fu-chau, h not silent), Kumasi, Sawâkin, etc. I shal publish shortly a list of such names in new orthogrfy.

London, Eng.

EVACUSTES A. PHIPSON.

In New Spelling.]

START! — GO SLO, BUT GO!

Atempting tū much at wuns, ðe joint-acsion ov ðe tū grat filolojic sosaietiz cam tu nôt. ðe Yunaited Stats government apointed a Börd tu desaid on yuniform orthogrfi for jeografic namz. Recomen-dasionz ov ðis bodi wer jenrali in direc-sion ov incríst simplisiti,—*Bering* Strats, for eczAMPL. Spelingz so adopted ofisial-i bai ðe nasional government wer at wuns accepted bai chif publisherz ov scül-buks hu also folo rülz formiulated bai Comiti ov ði American Asosiasion for ði Advan-sment ov Saiens apointed tu bring about yuniformaliti in spelling and pronunsia-sion ov kemical termz.

So wi si ðer iz progres ol along ðe lain; it ma sim veri slo, laik a glasier'z, but it iz az sertn az irrezistibl. ðer iz no col for eni ov us tu bɪ dishartnd bai ðe prospect. Ich ma du hwot litl hi can toard hasning rezults. Wi can form a habit ov yuzing in dali raiting such simplifaid spellingz az wil not sim affected or frikish, kɪpɪng aurselz ever in ðe fõrfrunt ov ðe müvment, but never going veri fur in advans ov ðe men bodi. Wi must not mak a fad ov orthogrfic reform, nor must wi devõt tu it a dispropõrsionat shær ov activiti, sins wi no ðat ðer ar vðer reformz az presing, perhaps mör important. But wi can höld aurselzv redi ever tu lend a hand tu help along; and wi can sho willingnes ever tu bɪ caunted in its favor.—BRANDER MATTHEWS in July *International Monthly*.

KEY: Sound i a u ð ô ö ū
as in we may run the old saw soon.
Diphthongs: oi, oil; ai, aisle; au, owl; iu, cure; iu, due.
The macron over o or u is unnecessary when the o or u manifestly ends a sylabl.

REVISED SPELLING AND THE DICTIONARIES.

Dictionaries are authority not only on definition, but on pronunciation and spelling. In these days of sp. ref'm agitation it is interesting and instructive to no what three latest American dict's have to say.

The first to speak out clearly was the *Century*. In its preface (1889) it says:

"The language struggles toward more consistent and fonetic spelling, and it is proper, in disputed and doubtful cases, to cast dictionary influence in favor of this movement; both by its own usage in the text and at head of articles by the order of forms, or selection of the form under which the word shall be treated."

At end of general vocabulary in *Century* vol. 6 (1891) is a "List of Amended Spellings recommended by Filologic Societies." Prefaced to this list of 3500 amended words we find this by the editor [which embodies statements that readers will characterize as not half-hearted or hesitating]:

"Objections bro't on etymologic, literary and other grounds against correction of English spelling are unthinking expressions of ignorance and prejudice. All English etymologists favor correction of English spelling on both etymologic and higher ground of great service it will render national education and international intercourse. . . No competent scholar has come or could come to a different conclusion, and it may be confidently predicted that future English dictionaries will be able to recognize to the full, as this dictionary is able in its own usage to recognize in part, the English vocabulary's right to be rightly spelled. . .

"The reformed orthography of the present, made with scientific intent and regard for historic and fonetic truth [Platform, plank 7], is more worthy notice, if a dictionary could discriminate as to worthiness between two sets of facts, than the oftentimes capricious and ignorant orthography of the past."

The second dictionary to speak out was the *Standard* (1890). Its preface says:

"In efforts to simplify spelling this dictionary is conservative, yet aggressively positive along lines of reform agreed on almost unanimously by leading filologists of U. S. and England. Whenever found practicable an advanced step has been taken toward scientific spelling. . . .

"The Amer. Filologic and Sp. Ref'm Assoc's recommend immediate application of principles of sp. ref'm to about 3500 words—principles adopted by Filologic society of Eng. To these reformed spellings vocabulary space is given in the *Standard*. . .

"In recording new wordforms the editors have intruded no new theories of their own, but give only just recognition to forms recommended by many, often used by some, eminent filologists, in nearly all instances indorsed by one or more great filologic societies. . . . If authority of a single author justify a lexicographer in recording a word or wordform, their authority cannot be ignored."

[It is thus that the *Standard* not only "goes and does it" by "giving vocabulary space to reformed spellings" in every page side by side with other wordforms, but it thus "argues the point" in advance with its readers, giving reasons and grounds to justify its course in giving such amended wordforms full place—its "advanced step"—instead of half shelving them in an Appendix.]

In late editions of Webster's *Internat'l*

dict'y (1890), preceding the general vocabulary, this same list of 3500 amended words is printed. The editor says:

"The following list of amended spellings [3500]. . . with rules by which they are indicated, is here inserted as the best result yet attained of efforts to reform spelling in large classes of words. Changes suggested are to simplify spelling, remove redundancies, more plainly indicate pronunciation, and are recommended by filologic scholars."

It is evident that three latest American dictionaries heartily support sp. ref'm, and give authority to 3500 amended spellings of filologic associations—one by incorporation in the general vocabulary, the other two print the list and call attention to great weight of scholarship behind it.—O.C. BLACKMER in Chicago *Record-Herald*.

SPREAD THE LANGUAGE.

The soldier has had his day in the Philippines. The schoolmaster is to have his. The Philipin Commission yields to Filipinos and permits Spanish as official language of the courts for five years. It will be two generations at least before the mass of people acquire English: in five years learned lawyers should be able to use it.

Needles to explain how much would be saved of time, labor, wear and tear of nerve in teaching Filipino children were English spelled as pronounced, remove this obstacle to learning our right language, that our beautiful uplifting primers, books of story, nature study, travel and elementary science, should come to them easily, and we should more rapidly and effectually bring them in touch with progressive ideas and civilization. Missionaries no longer the terrible clog that English spelling is to their efforts to christianize and civilize. Here are eight million people ready for our language. In God's name shall we improve the opportunity? Let them learn our noble language in spelling freed from defects that make school and reading sore trials to our own children and retard progress of foreigners in our midst.

How could we look the world in the face in view of our protestations of charity and humanity for them if we force on them our antiquated spelling, born of caprice and ignorance, a burden to our children and ourselves, instead of a simple and logical system constructed according to best judgment and experience of foremost scholars.—Editorial (condensed) in *Intelligence*, a Chicago semi-monthly *J(ournal) of Education*.

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For fuller explanation and Platform see cover of Annual of New Spelling (postpaid, ten cents).