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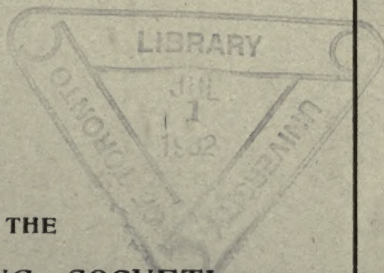


# THE PYONEER

OV SIMPLIFYD SPELING.

## KONTENTS.

Hou Shakespeare Spøk and Spelt.—Slaves to Spelling?—The Speling Difikulti.—Germany'z Strongest Wepon.—The English Fonetik Alfabet.—Our Propaganda.—Korespondens.—Nøets and Neuz.—Pres Kutingz.—Editorial Nøet.



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## OUTLINE SCHEME FOR NEW READERS

The same sound is always represented by the same letter or letters:  
eni, jepardi, greev, leep (*not* any, jeopardy, grieve, leap).

The digraph *ee* may be reduced before another vowel: seing.

**Letters not pronounced are not written**, and a consonant is not doubled to indicate  
a short vowel: dout, lam, aktiv, leter, nee (*not* doubt, lamb, active, letter, knee).

Wherever the *z* sound (as distinguished from the *s*) is heard it is written: tyz, prairz (*not*  
ties, praise).

*Q* and *x* are not used.

### VOWEL SOUNDS.

**a:** hat, glad.

**e:** meni, plezher (*not* many, pleasure).

**i:** wimn, bizl (*not* women, busy).

**o:** kot, hot.

**u:** but, bruther (*not* brother).

**oo:** book, poot (*not* put).

**ai:** grait, kalr (*not* great, care).

\***aa:** raather, haaf (*not* rather, half).

**au:** aul (*not* all, awl).

**ee:** eech, reseev (*not* each, receive).

**y:** ryt, fyr (*not* right, fire).

**ae:** lae, paeet (*not* low, post).

**oo:** troo (*not* true).

**eu:** teun, euloji (*not* tune, eulogy).

\* Only one **a** is used before **r**: arm, kar, &c.

In considering the scheme remember that **no new letters are introduced**, though in  
English we have only **23** letters for representing over **40** sounds.

# THE PYONEER

## OV SIMPLIFYD SPELING.

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### HOU SHAKESPEARE SPEEK AND SPELT.

By WALTER RIPPMMANN, M.A.

**H**AZ it ever struk eu that if Shakespeare kood kum among us again, and wer invyted tu see wun ov hiz plaiz performd, he wood no dout be struk with amaizment at the stajkraaft ov our dai, but wood find it veri difikult tu understand whot thœz on the stajj wer saing? He myt even think it dezryabel tu refer tu the printed pajj—not nesesarili az printed in hiz œn dai; a modern edishon ov hiz plaiz wood doo kwyt wel.

If this serpryzez eu, it iz bekauz eu doo not realyz whot a gulf separaits our spœken and our riten langwij. The pronunsiashon, espeshali ov the vouelz, haz chainjd enormusli deuring the laast thre hundred yeez; our speling duz not represent theez chainjez, for it iz a selekshon from the varyetiz ov speling that prevaild in Shakespeare'z tym. Thair woz then, az eu wel nœ, no rekognyzd form ov korekt speling—a komon werd woz ofen spelt in too or thre waiz on the saim pajj. Shakespeare must hav spelt lyk hiz kontemporariz; the varyeti in the speling ov hiz plaiz az printed shokt him no mor than eniwun els. It iz troo that we, un-forteunaitli, pazes veri litel in hiz œn handryting—a feu signateurz ov hiz naim, in which vairiaishonz ar found!

#### SPELING AND PRONUNSIASHON.

Tho thair woz no standerd ov korekt speling, yet, if we kompair the speling ov that dai with the pronunsiashon then in eus, we shal fynd that, on the hœl, it woz a priti fair reprezentaishon ov the soundz ov the living langwij. Taik a feu lynz from Shakespeare, and konsider hou he pronounst them:

Give thy thoughts no tongue,  
Nor any unproportion'd thought his Act :  
Be thou familiar ; but by no means vulgar :  
The friends thou hast, and their adoption tride,  
Grapple them to thy Soule, with hoopes of Steele ;  
But doe not dull thy palme, with entertainment  
Of each new hatch't, unfledg'd Comrade. Beware  
Of entrance to a quarrell : but being in  
Bear't that th' opposed may beware of thee.  
Giue every man thine eare, but few thy voyce ;  
Take each man's censurę ; but reserue thy iudgement.

The speling ov this pasij duz not difer wydli from our œn. Nœtis,



however, "hatch't," whair the laast leter agreez with the pronunsiashon. The konsonants wer pronounst az thai ar nou, with the important eksepshon that the *r* woz never sylent, aulwaiz trild. The werdz "proportion, adoption" ended in *-sion*, with a kleeer *s* and with the *o* that we hav in the ferst silabel ov "poetic," and "censure" ended in *-s-i-u-r*.

#### VOUËL CHAINJEZ.

The vouelz, on the uthar hand, wer veri diferent from ourz. "Thy, by, tride" had the sound which we shood nou ekspres by "thee, bee, treed." "Thought," had the saim vouel (difthong) az "soule," and in the sekond silabel ov "opposed"; but in "no" thair woz a peur long vouel (az in French *pauvre*). The ferst silabel ov "any" had the saim vouel az "act"; it aulso apeerz in "familiar" (twys), in "vulgar" (kompair the French *vulgaire*), in "adoption, beware, entrance, quarrell." It iz long in "take" and in "comrade," ov which the sekond silabel iz strest. It aulso formz the ferst part ov the difthong in "their," which woz pronounst *th-a* (az in "hat") *-i* (az in "hit") *-r* (trild), and in the therd silabel ov "entertainment." The vouel ov "thou" woz the saim az in "hoopes" and "doe." The vouel ov "means, each, bear, ear" woz a long form ov *e* (az in "pen," or raather az in French *été*). In "tongue, dull, but," and in the ferst silabel ov "vulgar, unfledg'd, iudgement," the vouel woz that ov "put"; the sound we hav in theez werdz iz a mor reesent development. Laastli, the werd "few" woz pronounst *f-e* (az in "pen") *-u* (az in "put").

Hou kan we asertain the pronunsiashon ov the Elizabethanz? Thair ar, unforteunaitli, no gramofœen rekordz ov thair speech, but we hav uthar meenz ov determinin whot soundz thai uterd. Thair hav aulwaiz been peepel interested in pronunsiashon, and in Shakespeare'z tym thair wer gramairianz hoo hav left valeuabel indikaishonz. Our œen steudents ov langwij hav devœeted much atenshon tu the development ov soundz, and kan sujet, with sum konfidens, the soundz prevailing at eni partikeular tym. The speling aulso eust tu aford sum gydans tu the soundz. Laastli, we get sum informaishon from the rymz ov the pœets. We mai lern a good deel from such ov Shakespeare'z rymz az "convert : art, desert : impart, bone : gone, wound : ground, bushes : rushes."

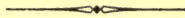
#### RYM A FALIBEL GYD.

It iz troo that rymz ar not an infalibel gyd tu the pronunsiashon, and pœets hav ofen been kontent with veri imperfekt rymz; indeed, thai seem sumtymz tu hav been satisfyd with meer "y-rymz." Thus, Tennyson haz the rymz "prove : love, put : shut, town : own, warm : arm, words : lords," and our Pœet Lauriait haz rynd "now : blow, watch : catch, come : home, path : hath." Az a rool, however, Dr. Bridges iz kairful tu hav jeneuin "eer rymz," and it iz interesting tu obzerv that this iz jenerali the kais with modern pœets, much mor so than with thair preedesesorz. Mai we

not regard this az evidens that thai ar mor heedful ov the living werd, and les ov the meer printed reprezentaishon?

Shakespeare, we mai be shoor, kaird veri litel about the speling, but a grait deel about the wai in which the aktorz uterd hiz werdz. A speling lyk ourz, which givz no gydans tu the pronunsiashon at aul, wood sertainli hav filld him with kontemt, and he wood redili hav agreed with Prof. Page when he sez:

The strongest argeument for a speling that shal mor neerli reprezent the soundz ov the werdz must rest on our sentiment for styl and for pœetri, and on a dezyr tu bring bak the feeling for pœetri from its fauls dependens on the vizibel aspekt ov langwij—which iz aulwaiz artifiſhal—tu a dependens on the real substans ov langwij—that iz, the sound. A pœem sertainli loozez nuthing in being wel red or spœken. Œnli so kan it atain tu its real egzistens az pœetri. Yet, when it iz red or spœken, whot bekumz ov the speling and ov the sentiment which iz alejd tu be mor or les dependent on the speling? For the saik ov trooer sentiment, for the saik ov a trooer feeling for English literateur, and espeshali for pœetri, our speling shoold be simplifyd.



## SLAVES TO SPELLING?\*

By T. A. RAMAIIYA, M.A.

(On. Sekretari ov the South Indian Braanch ov the S.S.S.).

[Reprinted from the "Educational Review," Madras.]

**W**HENEVER the thorny question of English spelling rises to my mind, a quatrain from Edward Fitzgerald's *Omar Khayyâm* haunts me like a weird tune heard in the mad dance of a midsummer night's dream. It runs as follows:—

Oh, Thou, who didst with Pitfall and with Gin  
Beset the path I was to wander in,  
Thou wilt not with Predestination round  
Enmesh me and impute my Fall to Sin?

But is this not exactly what English orthography does? Does it not beset our path "with Pitfall and with Gin," and attribute our "Fall to Sin"? Does it not set night-lines for the unwary pounders, and very often catch five-pounders, not to say fifty-pounders? The truth seems to be that English spelling is no respecter of persons. It makes the high and the low, the young and the old, the weak and the strong, the crowned king, the mitred bishop, the lordly noble, and the lowly labourer bow before it and acknowledge its world-wide supremacy. In an age which boasts of "Reason" it perpetrates and perpetuates

\* At the sujestion ov several memberz we shal okaizhônali print artikelnz in the bad œld speling, partli az a kontraast tu the simplisiti and charm ov our œen speling and partli az bait for the az yet unkonverted.



unreason. In a land of democracy it rules with all the rigour of an autocrat, only combined with all the savageness and frightfulness of *Kultur*. In "the home of the free" it stands as a menace to the long-cherished liberty as much as, if not more than, the "militarism of Central Europe." It has, in fact, forged the fetters for the "sons of sires that baffled crowned and mitred tyranny"—fetters not infrequently invented by foreign scribes and false philologists, and riveted by ignorant type-setters and plodding dictionary makers. If the freedom-loving peers who fought for and won for their sons and daughters Magna Charta (the Great Charter) could hear what shackles have been, in the name of culture, forged in the last two centuries, would they not turn in their graves? Will not the British people, then, who have so ruthlessly fought against and banished slave trade from their Empire rise against this slavery within their very kingdom, and show to the world—as, indeed, they do show in the battlefields of Europe—that

the folk of the Ocean  
Are free as the waves?

Will they not also bear in mind that this War is as much an Empire War as the War which began in August 1914? Signs are not wanting, however, to indicate that the mighty conflagration in Europe will burn down more tyrannical edifices than many people can think of.

That English spelling is quite a wandering "maze without a plan," with ambushes laid at every step, has never been gainsaid. A few instances, however, of the traps set with a cunning device not unworthy of the arch-fiend may be ventured. Consider the following list of words, which, though by no means exhaustive, can show with sufficient clearness how English spelling is a veritable "hell let loose":—"Good, food, brooch, flood; plaster, plaid, paid, said; glove, stove; sew, sow (verb), sow (feminine of 'boar'); hurry, bury, busy, hurrah; fate, ate; barge, large, target; once, only, nonce; lays, says." The list can easily be extended indefinitely. Consider, again, how very common words like "of, often, quite, quiet, sponge, museum, alien, was, is, as, has, women, waistcoat, quinine, business, cook, Wednesday, lieutenant, quay, choir, Thomas, smooth" are very often mispronounced. The perfectly innocent looking letter *a* has at least eight different values, as may be seen from the following nonsense sentence:—"There was rarely, if at all, any lazy lad in the class."

The more innocent looking letter *o* has at least nine different values: "The shortest of the women working near the tomb brought down two old wolves at one shot."

As for *oo* and *ou*: "The foolish brooch fell on the floor of the blood-stained room," and, "'Pour some of your sour soup,' shouted the young soul."

The monstrous *ough*'s, however, refuse to be so brought together into a sentence, however nonsensical it may be; but we shall take the following



for want of a better one:—"Hough fought a tough and thorough fight against hiccough, though he could not reach the trough through the boughs."

Reversing our process we find, for instance, that the sound *u* (the long vowel sound in "food") is expressed in at least fourteen different ways: "A shrewd fellow of the rude group who, through rheumatism, was in no mood to join in the manœuvre, loosened a blue canoe and, crossing the sluice, moved on to find out the truth for himself."

The *æ* sound (the vowel sound in "man") tells us of: "The salmon who guaranteed to have all lads in plaid well threshed."

The *α* sound (the first long vowel sound in "father") will cry: "Hurrah to the artless aunt of the heartless clerk, who asked the bazaar-man for a balm and a plaister!"

Not to be nauseated any more by these nonsense sentences, we may put the whole matter in a nutshell by pointing out that in English we have the curious phenomenon of twenty vowel sounds (including the diphthongs) being represented in at least two hundred and ten different ways; and, further, that we have a similarly wonderful phenomenon of twenty-four consonant sounds (including the compound sounds ordinarily represented by *ch* and *j*) being represented in at least a hundred and eighty different ways. And, summing up the results, forty-four sounds (made out of thirty-seven simple sounds) are represented in the current spelling in not less than three hundred and ninety different ways, the average working out to nine ways of representing each sound. We may cry out, "Monstrous! prodigious!" but there is the cruel fact staring us in the face. No wonder, therefore, that it has been computed that not less than a year of the English child's school life is wasted in this drill in unreason. And if this is the case with the English child, what shall we say of the waste of time in the case of a child whose mother tongue is not English?

Very often the reformers are asked the question: "What can poor India do in the matter of English speling reform? The reform should come to us as a settled fact, and then we will surely accept it. It must come from the top"—whatever the last sentence may mean! To this question there can be but one answer, and a very brief one, too: "*England's War* (both literally and metaphorically) *is our War!*" India may be for the present labouring under certain disadvantages and disabilities; but, to borrow our Poet-Laureate's words, "through fire, air, and water" her sins of past ages will be cleansed, and when the dawn of peace comes she will be found to have walked considerably towards "salvation"—towards "beauty, through blood." Her fair name will be written, not merely in the history of England, but also in the everlasting Book of Truth. Meanwhile it is the duty of every Indian, whatever disabilities he may be for the present labouring under, to stand by England, shoulder to shoulder, and fight for Truth and Light in all their aspects.

It is true that in this hour of storm and stress nobody will immediately

turn to the reform of English spelling. But it is well to remember that the reformers are fighting a fight not the less important because it is not fought in Flanders or in the Balkan Peninsula. And when the day of settlement comes their victory should be as decisive and complete as the victory of the Allies.

It is to be devoutly wished that the present Poet-Laureate would soon publish a companion poem to his *August 1914*, beginning, perhaps, with the following stanza:—

Thou careless, awake!  
 Thou reformer, fight!  
 Stand, England, for freedom,  
 And God guard the right!

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## THE SPELING DIFIKULTI.

(From an artikel kontributed by Mr. H. G. Wells, Vys-Prezident  
 ov the S.S.S., tu the "Daily Chronicle.")

THE difikulti in teeching English lyz in the inkonsistensi ov the spel-  
 ing, and the konsekwent difikultiz ov pronunsiashon. If thair wer  
 availabel an ampel seereez ov tekstbooks, reeding books, and books ov  
 jeneral interest, dun in a konsistent fonetik typ and speling, the difikulti  
 in teeching English, not meerli tu forinerz, but, az the eksperiments ov  
 the Simplifyd Speling Sosyeti hav proovd up tu the hilt, tu English  
 children kood be veri graitli redeust. At ferst the difikulti ov the  
 irashonal speling kan be set on wun syd. The lerner ataks and maasterz  
 the esenshal langwij; then aafterwerdz he kan, if he lyks, gœ on tu  
 the orthodox speling, which iz then no harder for him tu reed and  
 maaster than it iz for an Englishman ov ordinari edeukaishon tu reed  
 the faseeshus orthografi ov Artemus Ward or ov the "Westminster  
 Gazette's" "Orfis Boy." The lerner duz wun thing at a tym insted  
 ov ateming, az he wood utherwyz hav tu doo, too thingz—and thair  
 ar bæth difikult and diferent and konflikting thingz—simultainiusli.  
 Lerning a langwij iz wun thing, and memoryzing an ilojikal sistem ov  
 vizeual imijez—for that iz whot reeding ordinari English speling kumz tu  
 —iz kwyt anuther. A man kan lern tu plai ferst ches and then brij in  
 haaf the tym that theez too gaimz wood rekwyf if he began by ateming  
 simultainius plai, and egzaktli the saim prinsipel aplyz tu the langwij  
 problem.

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Dubli Dredful.

Az it iz euzheuali manijd, it iz a dredful taask tu lern and, if posibel, a mor  
 dredful taask tu reed.—RICHARD LOVELL EDGEWORTH.



## GERMANY'Z STRONGEST WEPON.

**I**N "Chambers's Journal" ov April 15, 1916, thair iz an interesting artikel by Dr. Goldblatt, in which he points out hou much the Germanz æ tu thair ernest studi ov forin langwijez. He remarks: "Thair iz a sens in which wun kood sai that whot the British fleet haz dun for Britain iz litel kompaird with whot filoloji haz dun for the German-speaking peepel." He paints raather a dark pikteur ov the neglekt ov langwijez in this kuntri. Perhaps he hardli næz hou much haz been aachevd in reesent yeez, but it iz undoutedli troo that we hav much leewai tu maik up.

Whot interests us partikeularli in Dr. Goldblatt's artikel iz hiz konvikshon that our lingwistik bakwerdnes iz deu tu the speling. He sez :

In spyt ov the remarkabel simplisiti ov its gramar, English iz not at aul an eezi langwij œing tu the antagonizm between its speling and its fonetiks ; and the meer fakt that this antagonizm iz toleraited maiks it plain hou litel the English næ ov thair œn langwij. "A man hoo iz ignorant ov forin langwijez," sed Goethe, "iz aulso ignorant ov hiz œn"; and the aplikaishon ov this remark tu the English iz seen in the ekstraordinari kwestion—herd eeven amung men ov leterz—"Hou doo eu spel it?" In a fonetik langwij the need for such a kwestion never aryzez, and a langwij hooz speling iz so much at vairians with its fonetiks rekwyz the developept mynd ov an adult, and kan not be abzorbd by that ov a chyld. By filing a chyld'z hed with odz and endz—that iz tu sai, with unpronounst leterz—eu braik its lyn ov reezonabel and sistematik thaut. The non-fonetik speling nou euzd by the English, having no lojikal foundaishon, kan not be lernt, but must be imprest, or raather forst, on the memori, which shoold be kept for hyer thingz than meer skraps. In hiz pasij throo lyf, the Englishman wil mor or les forget them. Hiz œn langwij iz too much trubel, and hiz avershon tu uthertz iz the nateural konsekwens. Thus, whyl the German aspyrz tu the maasteri ov aul the langwijez ov the werld, the Englishman remainz a slaiv tu hiz œn arkaaik speling.

## THE ENGLISH FONETIK ALFABET.

[We beleev our reederz wil be interested in seing this brief akount, (kontributed by the Rev. J. Knowles, Bedgebury, Mayfield Pace, Eastbourne), with spesimenz, ov the alfabet devydz by Ser Isaac Pitman meni yeez agœ. We shal be glad tu print eni brief kritisizmz tu which it mai giv rvz.]

**P**ITMAN'Z "Fonografi" solvd the problem ov a fasil fonetik skript.

Its analisis ov English soundz woz twelv vouelz and twenti-for konsonants, and for theez it provyded simpel synz.

Az a komplementari skeem, Ellis, Pitman, and uthertz ekstended our Roman alfabet with twelv modifyd leterz, the formz and soundz ov which ar az folœz :—

Leter	æ	ε	ʒ	σ	υ	ω	ʒ
Sound	path	fête	police	note	rule	all	but
Leter		η	θ	ϕ	ʃ	ʒ	
Sound		king	thin	then	ship	azure	

The adishon ov theez leterz kompleets our alfabet, so that eech elementari sound ov English haz its æn partikeular leter.

Aul the elementari soundz and aul the leterz ov the fonetik alfabet oker in the folcæing spesimen ov fonetik printing and fonetik skript :—

SPESIMEN OV PRINTING WITH FONETIK LETERZ.

a s i j u ŋ e e æ ai o e au u ω i u oi  
k g ŋ c j t d t ð n p b f v m y r l w f s z h

ði tʏ frogz.

a tan̄k in hwic tʏ frogz had loŋ livd woz draid up bai ði h̄jt, and ðe wer at len̄t ob- laījd tu s̄jk woter els-hwer. az ðe wer jur- neīng on ðe r̄jct ði ej ov a d̄jp wel in hwic ðe s̄o a gud d̄jl ov woter. “fal w̄j jump in h̄jr?”, sed wan ov ði frogz; “it iz bēt̄ k̄yl and d̄jp and, laik aur yuziual dwelīng- ples, ði soil iz damp and ðer ær a fiu p̄m- trīz raund abaut; w̄j n̄jd ḡo n̄o f̄ar̄ter,” — “n̄e”, sed ði ūter; but if ði woter sud fel h̄jr ol̄se, hau wud yu get aut agen?”.

ɛ	ɛ	ɨ	ω
alms	age	eat	all
ø	ʏ	ɤ or u	
ope	food	but	
ç or c	ʃ	ð	
chair	thin	then	
ʃ	ʒ	ŋ	
ship	vision	sing	

SPESIMEN OV FONETIK SKRIPT.

ði tʏ frogz.

a tan̄k in hwic tʏ frogz had loŋ livd woz draid up bai ði h̄jt, and ðe wer at len̄t ob- laījd tu s̄jk woter els-hwer. az ðe wer jur- neīng on ðe r̄jct ði ej ov a d̄jp wel in hwic ðe s̄o a gud d̄jl ov woter. “fal w̄j jump in h̄jr?” sed wan ov ði frogz, “it iz bēt̄ k̄yl and d̄jp and laik aur yuziual dwelīng- ples, ði soil iz damp and ðer ær a fiu p̄m- trīz raund abaut; w̄j n̄jd ḡo n̄o f̄ar̄ter.” “n̄e”, sed ði ūter, “but if ði woter sud fel h̄jr ol̄se hau wud yu get aut agen?” r-u



The advaantijez ov a komplet alfabet ar so grait that, sooner or laiter, we must hav wun. No beter skeem than the Pitman-Ellis haz yet been sujested. The orijinal typ maitrisez ar availabel, and, with modern typ-prodeusing masheeneri, the neu leterz kan be obtaind at the saim prys az the œld. Kapitalz, bæth print and skript, wil be found in the "Phonetic Journal," ets. The eus ov this fonetik alfabet wil saiv 15 per sent. ov leterz, and this reprezents in kompozitorz' waijez aœen £1,500,000 aneuali. Then thair iz the saiving ov a yeer ov skool tym.

The advaantijez ov this alfabet ar not konfynd tu English, for, by the adishon ov a feu mor leterz, we hav a romanik alfabet which wil akeuraitli transliterait or giv a praktikal fonetik skript for the too hundred langwijez ov our Indian Empyr.

I shal be glad tu fernish ferther and fooler informaishon on reset ov stamp and adrest envelœp. In referens tu Indian langwijez, see *Our Duty to India and Indian Illiterates*, from the Christian Literature Society for India, 35 John Street, Bedford Row, E.C.

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## OUR PROPAGANDA.

NEERLI EVERIBODI IZ IN FAIVOR OV SPELING REFORM.

**M**R. J. WALKER, 16 St. Aubyn's Road, Upper Norwood, S.E., a veri enerjetik member ov the Sosyeti, hoo haz devœted much tym tu the kauz ov speling reform, ryts with regard tu hiz ekspeeriensez with the Petishon:

I wœz mœst plezantli serpryzd tu fynd neerli everibodi taik a grait interest in this moovment, and egzibit far mor nolej about our ridikeulus sistem ov bæth speling and kounting, and the veri erjent need and importans—espehali nou—ov reform, than I shood hav imajind, and I kanvast several klaasez.

A SCOTTISH APEEL FOR A ROIAL KOMISHON.

A leter reseevd from Mr. AND. E. SCUGAL, LL.D., H.M. Cheef Inspektor ov the Training ov Teecherz in Scotland, iz an earnest apeel for a Roial Komishon on Speling Reform, and we hav much plezher in publishing it.

I return the Petishon, synd by myself and by uther edukaishonists hoom I hapend tu meet ofishali laast week. Egzaktli whot our "reformz" shood be I konfes I hav not yet been aibel tu setel in my œn mynd; but sertinli the hœl subjekt iz wun ov such importans az tu kaul loudli for the Komishon that the Petishon sujests.

THE "FERST REEDER."

At Christmas we publisht the sekond edishon ov the *Reeder* (2,000), and the demaand for it woz so good that we ar nou prodeusing the therd edishon. Wood eni reeder engajid in the teeching profeshon kair tu ryt tu us for a spesimen kopi ov the book with a veu tu instituteing an

eksperiment with it, az a preliminari tu teeching reeding and ryting akording tu the ordinari speling? It saivz tym and leedz tu kleeerer speech.

#### THE KOMERSHAL LAIBELZ.

The popeulariti ov the ferst iseu woz graiter than we had antisipaited, and our slender suply woz soon egzausted, but we hav nou a larj stok in hand. Thai hav been hyli praizd by varius biznes memberz, and Prof. John Dearness, On. Sekretari ov the Canadian Braanch, haz iseud a similar laibel for the eus ov Canadian biznes men. Wil sum enterpryizing speling reformerz in India, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa keep the trail barning by ryting tu us for a suply for distribeushon in thœz kuntriz?

## KORESPONDENS.

### NAIMING OUR SOUND SYNZ.

THE Rev. HENRY HODDER ryts:—

Refering tu Mr. Shields' sjujestion on this subjekt, I think the vouel naimz must byd a wee; but we myt takel the konsonantal synz. If the konsonants wer resonants, a bair simbol wood sufys, but for progresiv repetishon, and for sounding perpozez, thair must be a vouel akumpaniment. The œpen *-aa* wood seut best. Kood we not adopt it, and euz it euniformali *aafter* the distinktiv simbol—*e.g. b-aa, ch-aa, d-aa, f-aa, h-aa . . . s-aa, sh-aa . . . z-aa, zh-aa*. The hyfen iz tu separait the esenshal from the konvenshonal. Perhaps a brakel—thus, *b(aa)*—wood be beter stil.

Too ov the O.S. leter-naimz, "aitch" and "doubleyou," ar az sad sinerz az Falstaff and, lyk him, lend themselvz tu heumor. I supœz a naim iz a thing, and thairfor a noun, and theez too nounz wer oblyjingli redi spelt for us when we wer born. Let us spel them (az wel az spel *with* them), and doo it aloud: "Aye, eye, tee, see, aitch spelz *aitch*." And aul that oral and aural performans iz tu reprezent a sound lyk an insipient sy ("sigh"). In thus plying Pelion on Ossa konfeuzhon bekumz mor konfounded, az nun ov the fyv komponœnts sjujests a sy. "Doubleyou" repeats the stori ov its berth aul ryt ( $V=v$ ,  $VV=\text{double } u$ , then  $W$ , then  $W$ ); but the "listening earth" iz stil puzeld. The lojikal and aural sensez ar not helpt by the historik tradishon. But the fool heumor bersts upon us when we kombyn the aitch with the doubleyou in the speling aloud ov "which." The skoolmaaster sez; "Spel 'which.'" Peupil: "Doubleyou, aitch, eye, tee, see, aitch spelz 'which.'" "Ryt," sez the maaster. But whot haz bekum ov the mas ov bilding mateerial? Its unkani shrinking iz werthi ov the prestidijitater'z art, but not ov the maaster'z syens. The pairtent ov "reedabiliti at syt," Mr. Hogarth, sez saijli in eur laast iseu: "Intelijent men ar freekwentli serpryzd at the simpel thingz which ofen prov difkult tu ordinari peepel." Wel, if "aitch" had been from ov œld kauld *h(aa)*, Hodge wood be saïing he woz goeing hæm tu Hereford insted ov dropping the aspirait az he iz so apt tu doo.

#### A VOIS FROM THE SKOOLROOM.

Mr. DRUMMOND, hoo iz ever werking on behaaf ov the Sosyeti, haz sent us the folœing leter which he reseevd from a peupil—Mis Annie E. Everitt, ov Bainton C.E. School, Driffield, East Yorks:—

We wer delyted tu reseev a leter from eu, and thank eu veri much for



the kardz and leeflets which eu enklœzd. We shal fynd them partikeularli interesting.

We shoold be veri graitfool tu eu if eu wood send the book which eu menshond in eur leter, tu keep in the skool. I kan ashoor eu that it wil be graitli valeud, and our teecher wil no dout reed it aloud tu us in the laast haaf-our ov the aafternoon. We hav long devœted this tym tu jeneral reeding.

She iz gœing tu poot eur leter on the blakbord, so that aul the children mai hav a kopi ov it, and keep it amung thair trezherz.

For several yeeرز our teecher haz aloud us tu ryt such werdz az "colour, parlour, honour," ets., without the *u*, but she haz hezitaited tu gœ eni ferther. Thai seem much mor sensibel and saiv tym, and ar aulzo eezier tu remember.

If peepel wood œnli taik the trubel tu think ov the advaantijez ov speling reform the prejooidis which so meni feel against it wood disapeer, and the grait rezults which devœted werkerz hav so long dezyrd wood, az eu sed, be within syt.

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## NĒTS AND NEUZ.

**The membership ov the Sosyeti nou numberz 2650.**

**The Aтитеud ov the Printer'z Reeder.**

"I am aultgether in simpathi with the aimz ov eur Sosyeti. The taask ov my felœ kraaftsmen wood be graitli lytend by the adopshon ov eur skeem, orsum slyt modifikaishon ov it," wer the remarks paast by a printer'z reeder in a larj London printing ferm.

**Dyalekt Literateur.**

Mr. Kenneth Grahame, author ov that veri delytfool book, *The Golden Age*, haz kompyld *The Cambridge Book of Poetry for Children*. We nœtis that he haz eksklooded aul dyalekt vers (with the eksepshon ov a singel Burns lirik and a porshon ov *Kilmenny*), bekauz "wun haz tu remember that theez pœemz ar intended for eus at the veri tym that a chyld iz painfooli akwyring a normal—ofen kwyt arbitrari—orthografi." If it wer a real "orthografi" (which meenz ryt ryting), this difikulti wood not aryz. If our leterz had a fikst valeu we kood reprezent dyalekt literateur with litel difikulti. Germany bœsts a rich dyalekt literateur; ourz iz poor. Hou iz this tu be eksplaind? Our reederz kan redili suply the aanser.

**A Plee for Simplifyd Speling in the Infant Skoolz.**

Theez ar the werdz ov a Hed Mistres ov an elementari infant skool: "I am veri much in faivor ov a reform in speling, az I hav charj ov an elementari infant skool. I feel that much valeuabel tym iz waisted eech yeer in teeching yung children tu reed, œing tu the enormus difikulti in the wai. It wood be an imens gain if the werdz wer riten az thai ar pronounst."

**Hou the "Cyclone" began.**

Several London paiperz hav reesentli been giving thair reederz akounts ov thair kareerz, but perhaps the most ameuzing from our reederz' point ov veu iz that ov a Western neuspaiper which started its kareer in moest pekeuliar serkumstansesz. The editor ov the "Rocky Mountain Cyclone" thus œpend the ferst artikel ov the ferst iseu ov hiz paiper: "We begin the publication ov the 'Rocqy Mountain Cyclone' with some phew diphiculties in the way. The typephounder phrom whom we bought the outphit phor this printing ophis phailed

to supply any ephs or cays, and it will be phour or phive weeques bephore we can get any. We have ordered the missing letters, and will have to wait until they come. We don't lique the looque ov this variety any better than our readers, but mistax will happen in the best regulated ov phamilies, and iph the cees and exes and ques hold out we shall ceep ('c' to be sounded hard) the 'Cyclone' whirling aphter a phashion till the sorts arrive. It is no joque; it is a serious aphair."

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### Russia and Simplifyd Speling.

We taik the folœing signifikant ekstrakt from a leter reseevd a short tym agœ from a biznes man in Russia hoo iz not a member ov the Sosyeti:—

If simplifyd speling kaim intu being, English wood spred lyk wyld-fyr heer. Russians ar eeger tu lern it, but everiwhair eu heer: "Eur English gramar iz veri eezi, but the werdz ar unpronounsabel, eksept with grait praktis." For this reezon German haz been larjli euzd in the komersshal relaishonz with English biznes houzez, and it wil be a krying skandal if German haz stil tu be euzd aafter the Wor, œing tu our ridikeulus speling.

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### Obiteuari.

With veri deep regret we hav tu rekord the deths ov thre ov our mœst ardent suporterz:—

Prof. A. S. Napier, ov Oxford, a grait skolar and a keen speling reformer, paast awai laast munth.

Mr. H. O. D. Harding, hoo haz dun valeuabel werk on behaaf ov the Sosyeti in India, met a veri trajikal end. He woz stabd tu deth by a Mohammedan hoo had run amok. Hiz laast werdz, "Dœn't iltreet him," refering tu the madman, testify tu hiz kynd dispozishon.

The Rev. Dr. C. A. Greaves, hoo woz aulso graitli interested in Speling Reform, unekspektedli dyd a short tym agœ. He left the Sosyeti a gift ov £2. 10s.

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### Mr. W. B. Steer, a Vys-Prezident ov the Sosyeti.

It iz with much plezher that we anouns tu our reederz that Mr. W. B. Steer, eks-Prezident ov the Nashonal Eunion ov Teecherz, haz kyndli konsented tu aksept ofis az a Vys-Prezident ov the Sosyeti. We ar konfident that hiz naim wil kari grait wait in our apeel tu memberz ov the teeching profeshon.

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### The Graitest Reform.

Mr. C. C. Stuart, 31 Hamilton Road, Long Eaton, Notts (a teecher with much ekspeeriens), in diskusing the uther dai the merits ov our skeem, remarkt:

Thair iz no trooth in the theori that simplifyd speling looks gretesk. With a litel studi, the strainjnes paasez awai in les than a week, and such ryting bekumz kwyt az intelijibel and reedabel az in the œeld wai.

I beleev this tu be the graitest reform it iz posibel tu undertaik, and wun which, if suksesful, wood giv wunderful impetus tu aul uther dezryabel reformz.

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### The Eus ov the "œ" Ligateur.

œEnli a feu ov our reederz hav eksprest an opinion on this inovaishon, and ov theez œenli wun iz against it. We shoold be glad tu heer from uthertz on the subjekt.

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### The Testimoni ov an Inspektor ov Skoolz.

Aafter peroozing our literateur, Mr. D. S. Macnair, H.M.I.S., ryts: "I am strongli ov opinion that thair iz a lamentabel waist ov tym and efort in the teeching ov konvenshonal speling."



**Prof. Saintsbury and Speling Reform.**

"I shood be in an atmosfeer whair Dailyt Saiving Bilz wer unthinkabel, and speling reform konfynd yther tu the signifikantli kauld 'retreets' or tu the studiz ov a veri feu eksentriks." (*The Peace of the Augustans*, paj 265.)

"[Rowley's speling] iz, ov kors, when considered in ysolaishon, abserd—an aiteenth senteuri, and skoolboi, egzajeraishon ov the werst peeriod ov triks in ortho- or seudografi (the fifteenth and erli siksteenth senteuri) ever nœn in English or French til speling reform kaim in." (*Ibid.*, paj 327.)

But sins the lerned Profesor rœt we hav lernt tu saiv the dailyt; and hiz werdz ar a konfeshon that at the prezent dai speling reform haz "kum in," and that it iz *not* "konfynd tu the studiz ov a veri feu eksentriks." We kordiali wish him the pees ov the Augustanz; for ourselvz we prefer the vigorous strugelz ov our œn dai.

**A Kyndli Ofer.**

We hav plezher in publishing the folœing ekstrakt from a leter sent tu us from our friend, Mr. John Milton, Crowthorne, Abington Park Road, Northampton:—

If eu shood kum akros or heer ov eniwun hoo wood lyk hiz or her efforts korekted (I shood prefer thœz ov a laidi) I shood be veri hapi tu help a traveler or travelerz along the rœd. I hav plenti ov spair tym az a retyrd Sivil Servant, and such tym iz kwyt at the servis ov eniwun hoo wons such help az I am kaipabel ov giving—I need hardli ad, I hœp, without eni sort ov retern eksept, perhaps, thanks.

We hav from tym tu tym red sum ov Mr. Milton's esaiz in simplifyd speling, and hav never found a mistaik in speling in eni wun ov them. No dout sum ov our reederz wood kair tu taik advaantij ov this ofer.

**The Leter tu the Frunt.**

Minister (hoo haz kyndli oferd tu ryt tu parishoner's sun at the frunt): "Nou, Mrs. McIntosh, iz thair enithing els eu'd lyk tu sai?"

Mrs. McIntosh: "Ye micht just finish wi' 'Excuse the bad writin' an' spellin', and that'l dae fine, sir." [From "London Opinion."]

**French az She iz Spelt.**

The folœing leter from a *poilu* in the trenchez wil amez our reederz:—

Madame,—Je vous fais sa voire de mais nouvelle pour vous remet sie de votre bien que vous mavaie fais je vous remet sire la demoiselle qu'il a fais mais gans je pence que vottre cente va tre bien pour le moment je vous dire que je sui arrive a ment regiment madame je ne vois plus rien a vous dire pour le moment je vous saite une bonne annee et une bonne cente.

voici ment na dresse—

A—H—, 1er Colonial, 1er Compagnie,  
5er Escaude, Secteur 175.

vous remet cires la demoiselle de mas pare.

**A Pitman Sentenari Booklet.**

From Mr. George Higgie, Rothesay, we hav reseevd an interesting litel booklet, printed in komemoraishon ov the Pitman Sentenari, in thre stylz ov speling—ordinari, simplifyd, and fonetik longhand (Pitman's shorthand speling). Mr. Higgie's vizhonari gaiz taiks him ferther than the ordinari speling reformer; stil, we ar glad tu hav the suport ov hiz vigorous pen in the fertherans ov a komon prinsipel.

**Spelbound.**

Leeder Ryter (tu Fair Typist). "Why doo eu stop so ofen? Kaan't eu keep up with me?" Typist (hoo iz raather shaiki in her orthografi): "O yes! but eur langwij iz so elokwent that I freekwentli fynd myself spelbound."

**Trooli American.**

Everibodi næz—or raather sez—that “honor” iz an American form ov speling. Perhaps it iz, and nun the wers for that. Eniwun vizing the room in which, at Edinburgh, James VI ov Scotland and ov England woz born wil fynd “Honer” inskrybd on the waulz. Whether Scotland standz whair it did mai be aaskt from meni standpoints, but it iz sertin Edinburgh did not kopi from America in 1566.

**Shakespeare in Simplifyd Speling.**

Mr. John Milton, Northampton, haz just kompleeted the taask ov ryting ou aul Shakespeare'z pœemz, plaiz, and sonets—a toetal ov about 117,000 lynz—in simplifyd speling. Mr Milton pleedz gilty tu being a bad reeder in the sens ov being an impaishent wun and haz impœezd this taask on himself az lykly tu korekt a dispozishon tu “leep the paijez” az the French sai. He konfesez tu having thuroeli enjoid the disiplin.

**LOST.**

£70,352,180

IN EVERI JENERAISHON  
ON TEECHING ENGLISH SPELING  
IN  
BRITISH SKOOLZ.  
FOR PARTIKEULARZ APLY 1ST FLOR.

This advertisment, which hangz in pœster form outsyd the ofisez ov the Simplifyd Speling Sosyety in Great Russell Street, haz moovd the entertaining “Rambler” ov the “Daily Mirror” tu sardonik koment. “Neer the British Meuzeeum, yesterdai,” he sez, “I woz leurd akros the street by a pœster, ov which I kood œnli reed the werdz ‘£70,352,180 lost.’ Having krost the rœd, I found myself a viktym tu wun ov the kaiperz ov the ‘Simplifyd Speling Sosyety.’” Nou hoo, mai we aask, iz the “kaiperer” in this litel traji-komedi? Not the Simplifyd Speling Sosyety, but the grait and gyl-les British publik, which, in this instans, daansez tu a mœst ekspensiv teun. Such pirooeting, we maintain, shood sees, partikeularli aafter the Wor, when ekonomy aul round must not œnli be preecht, but praktist.

**“The Plumber.”**

Mis Walker, Roan Skool for Gerlz, kwoets the folœing versez from *Ingglisch az She iz Spelt*, perpetrated by Fritz Federheld (Ward, Lock):—

**LINES ON THE PLUMBER.**

Most modest of men is the plumber,  
No rival has he but the drummer;  
Though the world e'er maligns,  
Yet he never repigns,  
And thriveth in winter and sumber.  
Give him but an order to plumb,  
And his bill straightway reaches a sumb  
That depletes your exchequer—  
'Twould equip a three-dequer—  
And makes you most awfully glumb.

There was a young lady called Cholmondeley,  
Whom men thought exceedingly colmondeley;  
But as she could speak  
In nothing but Greak,  
They sighed, and looked on at her dolmondeley.



## NEU MEMBERZ.

*Lyf Member.*

Mr. Andrew Brodrick, 77 Mount Road, Higher Tranmere, Birkenhead.

## ANEUAL MEMBERZ.

- Prinsipal* S. Oswald Harries, Public School, South Wellington, B.C., Canada.  
*Aulderman* E. Hanger, J.P., Stoneferry Works, Hull.  
*Mrs.* C. Buckingham, Alma House, Eynsham, near Oxford.  
 C. J. Lloyd, 2 Mulgrave Road, Neasden, N.W.  
*Misz* C. E. B. Blake, Yarn Barton, South Petherton, Somerset.  
 M. Brook, Sondesbro' Street Infants' School, Hull.  
 B. Duckett, 27 St. John's Road, Clifton, Bristol.  
 May Foster, Wapping Road School (Girls' Department), Bradford.  
 M. E. Fuller, Surbiton High School, Kingston-on-Thames.  
 N. Gassett, Surbiton High School, Kingston-on-Thames.  
 E. Gilbert, 22 Wolverton Avenue, Kingston.  
 A. L. Grant, 6 Clare Road, Cotham, Bristol.  
 Grace Hall, 314 Kensington Hill, Brislington, Bristol.  
 M. E. Haughton, Constable Street Infants' School, Hull.  
 Catherine E. Holliday, 18 High Street, Warwick.  
 A. Holmes, Chapman Street Infants' School, Hull.  
 Elsie M. Jolin, 6 Leopold Road, St. Andrew's Park, Bristol.  
 E. G. Jupe, 39 Neuleaze Avenue, Bristol.  
 Lloyd, 7 Arlington Street, Hull.  
 H. I. Moody, Cathay, Redcliffe, Bristol.  
 W. Moss, Craven Street Infants' School, Hull.  
 L. W. Musgrave, Anlaby Park School, Hull.  
 A. E. Newton, Middleton Street Infants' School, Hull.  
 A. M. Proctor, Surbiton High School, Kingston-on-Thames.  
 Router, Craven Street School, Hull.  
 K. S. Whitaker, 10 Churchfield Street, Dudley.  
 G. J. Watmough, Paisley Street School, Hull.  
 Margaret A. Walker, Girls' School, Woodstock.  
 M. L. Walker, Scarr House, Golcar, near Huddersfield.  
 N. Wells, Crowle Street Infants' School, Hull.  
 K. H. Wood, Scarboro' Street Infants' School, Hull.  
*Mesrz.* Frederick J. Allsop, Outwell, Wisbech, Camb.  
 E. D. Annesley, 11 Beaumont Street, Oxford.  
 C. H. Barnes, 403 Carlton Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.  
 Robert Bell, 20 Maxey Road, Plumstead.  
 Thomas Alfred Bowcock, 38 St. Saviour's Road, Humberstone Road, Leicester.  
 Charles Cann, School House, Marshland, Emneth, Wisbech.  
 H. W. Coe, Suffolk Villas, Swaffham.  
 Percy G. Collins, 29 Glenthorne Road, Kingston-on-Thames.  
 John A. Edmondson, Caniambo, Victoria, Australia.  
 F. W. Hignell, Magdalen, King's Lynn.  
 Rud. Honomichl, Alley 1431, South 14 Street, Omaha, Nebraska, U.S.A.  
 Thomas M. Kenney, Technical School, Oxford.  
 Pia Madhuprot, 139 Woodstock Road, Oxford.  
 H. Mason, 78 Eden Terrace, Auckland, New Zealand.  
 James L. Neil, Schoolhouse, Abriachan, Inverness, Scotland.  
 And. E. Scougal, LL.D., 1 Wester Coates Avenue, Edinburgh.  
 Herbert Skinner, P.O. Box 585, Nanaimo, B.C., Canada.  
 Chas. Stamford, Walpole St. Peter, via Wisbech.  
 B. Taylor, 49 Isaac's Hill, Cleethorpes.  
*Akting* W. Haines, No. 4575, "D" Company, No. 9 Lines, 15th Battalion  
*Korporal* The Rifle Brigade, South Camp, Seaford, Sussex.

## SOUTH INDIAN BRAANCH.

B. Raghunatha Rao, B.A., Board High School, Coondapore, South Canera Dt., India.

## PRES KUTINGZ.

*March, Aipril, and Mai.*

LETERZ FERMLI ADVOKAITING SPELING REFORM wer obzervd in the folcöing jernalz: — Aberdeen Free Press (2 leterz), Bristol Times and Mirror, Burton Daily Mail, Daily Graphic (2 leterz), Daily Mirror (3 leterz), Lady, Leeds Co-operative Record (4 leterz), Liverpool Post, Manchester City News, Newcastle Journal, Oxford Times (3 leterz), Schoolmaster, Sheffield Independent, Yorkshire Observer, Yorkshire Post.

PROMINENT ARTIKELZ in which a plee for speling reform woz maid apeerd in: Chambers's Journal, Daily Chronicle (2 artikelz by Mr. H. G. Wells), Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury (2 artikelz by Mr. H. G. Wells), Spectator, Teacher's World.

ARTIKELZ devoted entyrlly tu the advokasi ov speling reform wer printed in: Commercial Education, Educational Review (India), Globe (Toronto), Oregon Teachers' Monthly, School World.

LETERZ AND ARTIKELZ menshoning English speling and sujesting reform wer noetist in: Daily Chronicle, Daily Mirror (3 leterz), Dundee Advertiser, Lady, London Teacher, Newspaper World, Notts Guardian, Yorkshire Telegraph.

AN ARTIKEL in komemoraishon ov the Tersentenari ov Shakespeare, which kontaind speshal referensez tu our werk, woz publisht in: Ardrossan and Saltcoats Herald, Birkenhead and Cheshire Advertiser, Darwen News, Dublin Express, Dundee Advertiser, Keighley News, London Teacher, Newcastle Journal, Outlook, Schoolmaster, Scotsman, Secondary Education, Stratford-upon-Avon Herald, Yorkshire Observer Budget, Yorkshire Observer, Western Morning News.

LEKTEURZ ON SIMPLIFYD SPELING wer reported, or komented upon, in the folcöing paiperz: Oxford Times, Schoolmaster, Surbiton Times.

THE *Ferst Reeder* woz reveud in: The Child, Education, School Government Chronicle, Secondary Education, Times.

KORESPONDENS in regard tu the merits ov English and Esperanto az an internashonal langwij haz apeerd in the Aberdeen Free Press.

LETERZ in opozishon tu speling reform apeerd in: Aberdeen Free Press, Oxford Times.

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 EDITORIAL NET.

IT haz been desyded tu publish THE PYONEER kworterli until pees iz restord. The Editor's adres iz 45 Ladbroke Grove, London, W.

THE PYONEER iz sent graitis tu aul Memberz ov the Simplifyd Speling Sosyeti. The aneual subskripshon for Asoeshiat Memberz iz a minimum ov wun shiling, that for Aktiv Memberz a minimum ov fyv shilingz. Mor muni meenz mor pouer tu kari on the kampain.

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- O 1. It would interfere with the growth of the language and obscure the derivation of words.
- O 2. To give the same spelling to such words as *right*, *write*, and *rite* would lead to confusion.
- O 3. A spelling according to the sounds assumes the existence of a standard speech, which we do not possess.
- O 4. Language constantly changes, and a spelling in accordance with the sounds would be always changing, which would be intolerable.
- O 5. The present spelling is beautiful, and any change would make it ugly.

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*whether they have realized the following advantages that would  
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- A 1. Much of the child's brief education time would be saved.
- A 2. Spelling would be taught in a reasonable way.
- A 3. The teaching of our language and literature would be improved; other school subjects would also benefit.
- A 4. The English language would spread rapidly throughout the Empire, and might become the language for universal intercourse.

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