GLADYS; OR, THE STORY OV PENBIRTH

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Gladys; Or, The Story Ov Penbirth by Julia M. Bengough

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JULIA M. BENGOUGH

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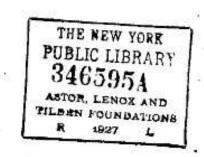
BY

JULIA M. BENGOUGH.

Printed in the First Staje ov the Spelling Reform,

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PREFACE.

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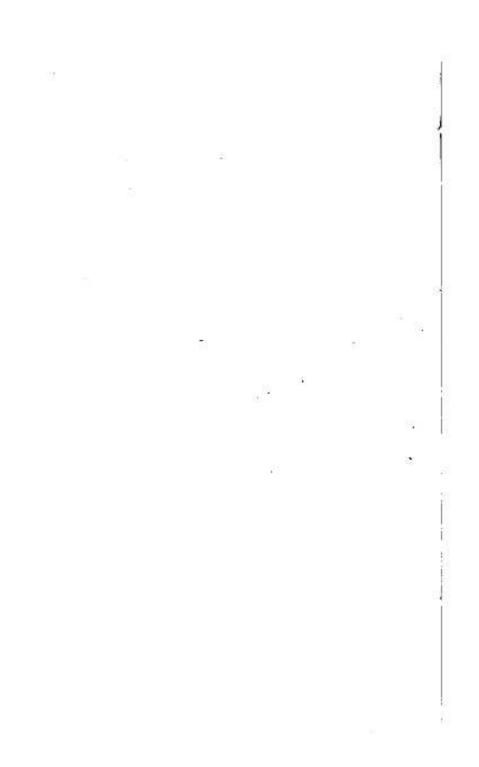
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It is said that in the roll of the ages all good things come at length to those who work and wait. The tangled skein of English orthography is now in a fair way to be unraveled through the labors of Mr Isaac Pitman and the band of workers associated with him in the endeavor to effect a Spelling Reform. To be able to aid in this great and necessary work is a source of gratification. In the orthography of the following story a few threads only of the "tangled skein" are unwound. I leave it to Mr Pitman to describe the process by which he hopes to disentangle the whole.

A residence of many years in Germany has endeared to me both the people and the language of that country. I am, therefore, glad to be able to say that a German translation of "GLADYS" has been undertaken by a lady, and will probably appear in the course of the year.

JULIA M. BENGOUGH.

Darmstadt, 1 January, 1884.



ON SPELLING.

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Four hundred years ago the art ov printing was introduced into England. The first printers had enough to do to cut punches, strike matrises, cast founts ov type, provide a supply ov paper, and print a few books. These pressing necessities ov their bisnes left them no time to think ov the inadequasy ov the alfabet to represent the sounds ov the language. They adopted the alfabet that had been used by the scribes in the monasterics, and it appears that they never thought ov enlarjing or improving it.

The state ov English spelling at that time cauzed great serekings ov hart among a few skolarz, who saw and lamented the orthografic vagariez in which the printers indulid. Sir John Cheke and Sir Thomas Smith, about 1540, projected some improvements in spelling, but the printers hereded them not.

In 1768 Benjamin Franklin turnd his attention to the subject, proposed some additional letters, and corresponded in his reformd spelling with Miss Stephenson.

In 1766 James Elphinston publisht a quarto volume ov 396 pajaz in a reformed orthografy. His corrections consisted mainly in doubling a consenant to show that the preseding vowel is short, dA for tA in then, s for s but not in all cases, and -cion for -tion.

In the erly part ov the present sentury Daniel Webster, the American lexicografer, proposed several improvements, but stops short ov remedying the evil by an enlarjd alfabet.

During the last forty years, the dissemination ov a system ov shorthand writing based on the sounds ov the language, has created a jeneral dezire for correct or fonetic spelling in all English-speaking countries, and this dezire has taken a practical form thus :---

It is proposed to amend the spelling by degrees or stajes, first correcting a few ov the most conspicuous errors; and when the public eye has become accustomd to the new spelling in these words, further corrections can be made. The entire reform ov the alfabet and orthografy may be divided into Four Stajes, thus

ON SPRILING.

FIVE RULEZ FOR IMPROVING SPELLING. AZ A FIRST STEP TOWARDZ A SPELLING REFORM.

RULE I.

Omit a from the digraf ea when pronounst az e short, az in hed, tred, spred, def, helth, relm, medow, ets.

RULE 2.

Omit silent e final after a short vowel, az in hav, wer, giv, gon, definit, doctrin, forbad, ets.; except in done, love, ets., where don, lov, would be mislcading.

RULE 3.

Write a singel insted ov a doubel final consonant after a short vowel ; at in shal, wel, wil, of (off), dul.

RULE 4.

Write t or d for ed when so sounded ; az in lasht, prest, fixt, increast, ets.; calld, breathd, formd, opend, ets.; unles the preseding vowel iz long and singel, az in hoped, craved, where hopt, cravd, would be misleading.

RULE 5.

For c	c, ch or li	ch j	gordg	ph	\$	3 6	rt
writes	sħ	k v	j	f	z	sh el	er
		milute an	and a fund of the	Im.			

city, ocean, machine, nation, eaho, of, gem, ledge, physio, wise, sure, able, metre. sity, ashan, mashine, nashon, eko, ov, jem, lej, Atik, wise, shure, abel, meter. When in dout as to the spelling ov a word, write it as it is pronounet;

thus : ressen, gaje, bizy, bianes, jail, mirakel, colum, rekomend, dum. receive, gauge, busy, business, gaol, miracle, columa, recommend, dumb.

Encosed, proceed and succeed, should be written excede, proceede (procedure), succede, like other words compounded ov cedo, as accede, precede. Some useful distinctions in the meanings or words may be pointed out in fonetic spelling ; thus, we may speak ov a koir (sometimes kalld knosir) or anjels, and a knosir (quire) or paper; refuze the refuse; and distinguish between a minit ov time, a minite or small thing, and a minute ov a Committee. The following words, the opprobrium ov etymolojy, should be restored more nearly to their anshent form :dout, fether, houbs, feather, iland, rime, delite, det, foren, foreign, 8007cm.

debt. doubt, feland, rbyme, sovereige, delight, eithe, tung, hole, sent, sinder, siv scythe, tongue, whole, scent, cluder, sieve, (compare sif-t), apritely. eprightly.

The spirit ov this elastic jeneral rule, is :- Alter spellings in the direction ov pronunsiation, but avoid chanjes that would make words look stranje. Hence, for the present, write unsounded letters, as in gnostic, know, knight, pneumatics, wrath, wright, wrong, bright. brought, high ; and retain the ambiguous c in cease, niece, piece, peace, once, rather than puzzel the reader with sease, niese, or neese, piese or pease, or peese, onse or touns. If any spelling reformer should consider these Rulez too extensiv

ON SPELLING.

in their application-that they alter too many words-he may employ any one, two, or three ov them; and take any portion ov the ten chanjes ov letters recommended in Rule 5. Any chanje whatever from the current, corrupt orthografy wil be a protest against it, and an acknowlejment that a Reform is needed. The American edition ov these Rules embrases only 1, 2, 3, half ov 4, and f for pk in 5, and alters only one word in seventy. This seems like tapping with a jeological hammer at a huje rock that obstructs the highway. The "Five Rules" correct all anomalous uses ov the consonants, except a few silent letters. These anomalies ar reformd in the Second Staje, which is the easiest for the writer in forming a habit ov spelling ; and spelling cannot be executed with despatch til it has become a habit.

These Rules ar commended to the attention ov spelling reformers for use in all longhand writing where the law ov kindnes would not be thereby violated. It is useles to do battel now for a complete alfabet, except as a means ov teaching reading. Let us first break the spel ov the sham literary sanctity that enshrouds the common spelling, by refuzing, in a few glaring instances (specified in the "Five Rulez") to spel words by letters other than those that ar sounded in them. Every spelling reformer should remember that all the great etymolojists and filolojists ov England and America favor a Spelling Reform, and that when Prof. Skeat, or Cambridge, the author ov the larjest and best "Etymological Dictionary," 4 volz, had finisht his great work, he wrote, "From pure love ov etymology, and in the interests ov the same, I should like to see the prezent spelling utterly smasht."

This volume is printed in accordans with the above Rules, and is a speaknen ov the

FIRST STAJE OV THE SPELLING REFORM.

ersept that only the three most frequent ov the ten substitutions in Rule 5 ar adopted ; namely, v for f in "of," f for ph, and z for s.

SECOND STAJE OV THE SPELLING REFORM.

The five vowels a e i o u represent the short sounds which they hav in the wordz

pat, pet, pit, pot, but & put. C, q, and x ar rejected, the remaining eighteen consonants ar uniformly employd for the sound x which they ordinarily represent, the following oi ch th ci iu ou mi sh zh ng digrafa represent the sounds in

by, new, now. Kaiser, koll ; each, thin and then, with, vision, sing, and all words, except those that contain long vowels, ar written as they ar pronounst. Without new, or discritically-markt, letters, or digrafs which disfigure the words, to represent the long vowels, it is not possibel to reprezent the entire language fonctically. The occur-rens ov t and A, s and A is markt thus, Bat-hurst, mis-hap.

THIRD STAJE OV THE SPELLING REFORM

δ ö Δ L ar employd to reprezent the soundz in ê. 1 father, fail, feel, fail, foal, fool, fan ; and th is used in "thin, thick, breath." Any printer who doez not pozés theze markt vowels can obtain a supply for a shilling or two. With them he can print the English languaje as spoken. In the