

**THE ACADEMY ORTHOËPIST:
A BRIEF MANUAL OF
PRONUNCIATION FOR USE IN
THE SCHOOL-ROOM, NO. 45**

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The Academy Orthoëpist: A Brief Manual of Pronunciation for Use in the School-room, No. 45
by J. W. Abernethy

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J. W. ABERNETHY

**THE ACADEMY ORTHOËPIST:
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No. 45.
ENGLISH CLASSICS.

THE
ACADEMY ORTHOËPIST.

A BRIEF MANUAL OF PRONUNCIATION FOR
USE IN THE SCHOOL-ROOM.

INCLUDING

A SPECIAL LIST OF PROPER NAMES OF FREQUENT OCCURRENCE
IN LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

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P R E F A C E .

THIS little Manual has been prepared in the belief that the pronunciation of any school may be greatly improved by a very small expenditure of time and energy, provided it be wisely directed. It differs from books of its class in several important particulars.

First, it is not a reference book for the teacher's desk, to be occasionally consulted, but an exercise book to be placed in the hands of each pupil for systematic use until mastered.

Secondly, it does *not* contain three thousand words, but a carefully selected list of those words only which give rise to actual errors and difficulties, so limited as to render its thorough mastery not only probable, but with proper attention from the teacher, reasonably certain.

Thirdly, it aims, by a method of grouping, to associate words allied in pronunciation, thus fixing in a practical manner simple principles of wide application.

Finally, it aims at securing for those schools into which it may find its way, a uniform pronunciation of many words which have two or more authorized pronunciations. One finds by a brief comparison of standard dictionaries that it is impossible to hold rigidly to any single authority, if he would have his pronunciation conform to the best usage. For example, those who are loyal to so excellent

an authority as Worcester must say *clark* for *clerk*, *devas'tate* for *dev'astate*, *lev-ten'ant* for *lieu-ten'ant*, and *sa'tur* for *sat'ire*; and what is the pupil to do who, in searching the dictionaries, comes upon a word like *porcelain* with five well-established forms of pronunciation?

A preferred form for such words is here recommended, which, it is believed, represents the most approved usage at the present time. The decision in each case is based upon an examination of all the best and latest authorities, English and American, including Haldeman's Dictionary, recently published, and the New Imperial Dictionary. These words are distinguished by full-face type, and each spelling printed in this type represents an authorized pronunciation. Where usage is about equally divided, the preference of Webster and of Worcester is indicated in parenthesis; also when a form rests mainly upon a single authority, the name is added. Brief notes are inserted where further explanation seemed necessary. In all other cases the weight of authority is decidedly in favor of the form selected.

Should any teacher find reasons for departing from the judgment expressed concerning a particular word, his own preference can be indicated by some simple mark, before placing the books in the hands of pupils.

The writer's acknowledgment is due to Dr. A. C. Perkins, Principal of the Adelphi Academy, for valuable suggestions and criticisms received during the preparation of these pages.

J. W. A.

BROOKLYN, March 29, 1884.

POINTS TO BE REMEMBERED.

Remember not to omit unaccented syllables in such words as *history* (*histry*), *arithmetic* (*rithmtic*), *boisterous* (*boistrous*), *interest* (*intrest*), *valuable* (*valubl*), *victory* (*victry*).

Remember not to say *unt* for *ent* in such words as *government*, *moment*, *prudent*, *monument*.

Remember not to say *id* for *ed* in such words as *delighted*, *excited*, *united*.

Remember not to say *in* for *ing* in such words as *singing*, *reading*, *writing*. See page 34.

Remember not to say *iss* for *ess* in such words as *goodness*, *careless*, *hostess*, *empress*.

Remember not to say *unce* for *ence* in such words as *sentence*, *patience*, *experience*.

Remember that unaccented *a*, at the end of a word, has the shortened sound of *ā* in *father*, as in *algebra*, *Africa*, *sofa*.

Remember to sound the *d*, when preceded by *n*, in such words as *stand* (*stan*), *depends* (*depenz*), *grand-father* (*gran-father*), *handful* (*hanful*); also when standing between *l* and *s*, in such words as *holds*, *builds*, *unfolds*.

Remember to distinguish properly between the sound of long *u*, as in *duty*, and the sound of *u* preceded by *r*, as in *ruds*. See notes, pages 14 and 32.

Remember the suggestions under *gone*, page 18, *history*, page 19, and *savage*, page 33.

KEY TO PRONUNCIATION.

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------|-------|---------|--------|----------|
| ā, <i>long</i> | | as in | fāte, | āle, | pāin. |
| ă, <i>short</i> | | " | făt, | ădd, | cărry. |
| â, <i>before r</i> | | " | câre, | beăr, | pârent. |
| â, <i>Italian</i> | | " | ârm, | pâlm, | fâther. |
| ē, <i>long</i> | | " | mē, | ēve, | sēizure. |
| ĕ, <i>short</i> | | " | mĕt, | mĕn, | fĕrry. |
| ĕ, | | " | hĕr, | tĕrm, | prefĕr. |
| ī, <i>long</i> | | " | pīne, | īce, | thrīve. |
| i, <i>short</i> | | " | pīn, | īll, | mīrror. |
| ō, <i>long</i> | | " | nōte, | ōld, | lōaf. |
| ō, <i>short</i> | | " | nōt, | ōdd, | tōrrid. |
| ô, <i>broad</i> | | " | fôr, | sôrt, | ôrder. |
| o, <i>long</i> | | " | fōod, | mōon, | bōoty. |
| oo, <i>short</i> | | " | fōot, | gōod, | wōol. |
| ū, <i>long</i> | | " | ūse, | tūbe, | lūte. |
| ŭ, <i>short</i> | | " | ŭs, | tŭb, | hŭrry. |
| û, | | " | fŭr, | ŭrge, | concŭr. |
| ow, | | " | how, | owl, | vowel. |
| ġ, <i>hard</i> | | " | ġet, | begġn, | tġger. |
| ŋ, <i>like ng</i> | | " | fġnger, | lġnk, | angger. |
| g, <i>like z</i> | | " | hag, | amuge, | regide. |
| th, (unmarked) | | " | thin, | thank, | breath. |
| th, | | " | then, | those, | breathe. |
| ʒ, <i>like ge,</i> | | " | exert, | exist, | example. |

NOTE.—As it seems desirable to present words for drill in pronunciation encumbered with as few diacritical marks as possible, only the more fundamental and regular sounds of the vowels are included in the foregoing table. In this Manual, these marks, as a general rule, are placed only on the accented syllables of respelled words.

ABBREVIATIONS.—The abbreviations used in the following pages are Wb. for Webster, Wor. for Worcester, Hal. for Haldeman, Imp. for New Imperial, U. S. for United States, Eng. for English, Ger. for German, It. for Italian, Fr. for French.

ACADEMY ORTHOEPIST.

A.

Abdomen—ab-dō'men, *not* äb'do-men.

abject—äb'jekt, *not* ab-jékt'. So äb'ject-ly, äb'ject-ness.

ablative—äb'la-tiv, *not* äb'l-tiv.

absolutory—ab-söl'u-to-rí, *not* ab-so-lū'to-rí.

abstemious—ab-stē'mí-us, *not* ab-stēm'í-us.

accent, *verb*—ak-sént', *not* äk'sent. So ac-cént'ed.

access—äk'ses, *not* ak-sés'.

The second pronunciation is common in poetry.

accessory—ak-sēs'so-rí (Wb.), *not* äk'ses-so-rí (Wor.).

acclimate—ak-klí'māt, *not* äk'klí-māt. So ac-clí-ma-tize.

accost—ak-köst', *not* ak-kawst'. See cloth.

acetic—a-sēt'ik, *not* a-sē'tik. "acetic acid."

acoustics—a-kow'stiks, *not* a-kōos'tiks.

All the dictionaries say a-kow'stiks, and nearly all the world say a-kōos'tiks.

across—a-krös', *not* a-krawst'.

accurate—äk'ku-rāt, *not* äk'er-ít. See savage.

acumen—a-kū'men, *not* äk'u-men.

adamantean—ad-a-man-tē'an, *not* ad-a-mán'te-an.

address, *noun and verb*—ad-drēs', *not* äd'dres.

adept—a-dēpt', *not* äd'ept. So a-dült', *not* äd'ult.

Baldeman boldly says äd'ept, in obedience to general usage, but this pronunciation is not recognized by the leading orthoepists.

adverse—äd'vers, *not* ad-vêrs'. So äd'verse-ly.

advertise—äd'ver-tiz, *not* ad-ver-tiz'.

advertisement—ad-vēr'tiz-ment, *not* ad-ver-tiz'-ment.

æsthetics—es-thēt'iks, *not* ës-thēt'iks, *nor* êz-thēt'iks, *nor* es-thē'tiks.

again—a-gēn', *not* a-gān'; a-gēnst', *not* a-gānst'.

The second forms are antiquated, and permissible only in poetry.

aged—ā'jed, *not* ājd, *except in compounds.*

aggrandizement—ag-grān'diz-ment (Wb.), *not* āg'gran-diz-ment (Wor.).

albumen—al-bū'men, *not* āl'bu-men.

alcove—āl'kōv (Wb.), *not* al-kōv' (Wor.).

algebra—āl'je-bra, *not* āl'je-brā.

alkaline—āl'ka-lin, *not* āl'ka-lin. So ān'i-līne.

allegro—al-lē'gro, *not* al-lā'gro, *nor* āl'le-gro. So Milton's "L'Allē'gro."

ally—al-lī', *not* āl'lī; *pl.*, al-liz', *not* āl'liz.

almond—ā'mund, *not* āl'mund.

alpine—āl'pin, *not* āl'pīn, *nor* āl'pēn. So cis-āl'pine.

altercation—āl-ter-kā'shun, *not* āl-, *nor* awl-.

alternate, *verb*—āl'ter-nāt, *not* al-tēr'nāt; *noun and adj.*, al-tēr'nāt, *not* āl'ter-nāt, *nor* awl'-.

So al-tēr'nate-ly, al-tēr'na-tive.

amateur—am-a-tūr', *not* am-a₃tūr', *nor* am-a-toor', *nor* ān'a-chūr.

amen—ā'mēn', *not* ä'mēn', *except in singing.*

amenable—a-mē'na-bl, *not* a-mēn'a-bl.

ancestral—an-sēs'tral (Wb.), *not* ān'ses-tral (Wor.).

antepenult—an-te-pe-nūlt', *not* an-te-pē'nult.

anti, *in compounds*—ān'tī, *not* ān'ti.

antipodes—an-tīp'o-dēz, *not* ān'ti-pōdz.

apparatus—ap-pa-rā'tus, *not* ap-pa-rā'tus.