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SPELLING REFORM.

The Golden Mean in the Matter of Adopting Changes.

(September St. Nicholas.)

Boys and girls who have read enough of English literature to be able to compare the language in its beginnings, in the poems of "Beowulf" and "Piers Plowman," with its present form in the books of today, will not be found among those who comment upon the idea of changing English spelling only by gibes and jokes. They know that spelling is being reformed all the time. We do not spell at all as our forefathers did, and their spelling differed from that of their grandfathers. No one doubts, unless he has not studied the matter, that there are many absurdities in modern English spelling. No one familiar with the changes of the last few years can doubt that such changes will continue to be made. The same cause that led us to drop the final k in "musick" and "physick," will in time lead us to get rid of other letters found useless.

Some people rejoice in all changes; some cling to old things as if age alone made all things sacred. In this matter, as in all others of the sort, the best course for young people is the golden mean—be ready to make changes you find reasonable; be slow to change merely for the sake of change.

A number of learned men have been invited by Mr. Andrew Carnegie to help on the reform of English spelling, and they have suggested certain changes in our usual forms of spelling. It might be well for you all to think over the changes they recommend, with a view to adopting such as are thoroughly approved.

Scott And Dickens Lead.
(From the Philadelphia Press.)

New editions of Charles Dickens and Sir Walter Scott again direct attention to the incessant demand for the works of these novelists in spite of the "new books" and "best sellers." The English Bible is, of course, the best selling book. Shakespeare the best selling author. But there can be little doubt that Charles Dickens and Sir Walter Scott are a close second and third to the immortal bard of Avon.

People, even in the summer time, buy Dickens and Scott along with a bundle of new novels—a sure standby should the latter prove disappointing. Of Dickens' novels, generally speaking, "Pickwick" heads the list in point of sales, with "David Copperfield" a close second. With many people "Pickwick" perhaps typifies the Dickens note. "David Copperfield," again, is a story which is touched with his own autobiography. "Oliver Twist" and "The Old Curiosity Shop" come third and fourth. The sales of "Nicholas Nickleby," "Dombey and Son," and "Bleak House," may be mentioned together as following close upon each other. The other books sell in varying amounts, with "American Notes" a very decided tailender. In answer to the question, Why does the sale of Dickens keep up so strikingly? it may be said that what a critic would call the weakness of Dickens' books in a literary sense is, from the point of view of the general reader, their greatest strength. The supreme charm of Dickens does not consist in telling a tale. He does not tell a story as a progressive yarn—a plot moving steadily onward to a destined end. His books are more than that. One cannot read a story over and over again if story is all the book, but in Dickens it is only one among many things, and, therefore, readers return again and again to him, and never tire. Another cause of his constant popularity is the diversity of his characters, who so many varied interests of life.

A GUARANTEED CURE FOR PILES

Itching, Blind, Bleeding, Protruding Piles. Druggists are authorized to refund money if PAIN OINTMENT fails to cure in 6 to 14 days 50c.

Pointed Paragraphs.

(Chicago News.)

A luxury becomes a necessity after you get used to it.
The average woman would rather be married than happy.
Easy street's sunny side isn't paved with good intentions.
Some men get rich because of their inability to separate fools and their coin.
Don't get the idea into your cranium that women have a monopoly of enriosity.
It is unfortunate that all men are liars—but it is fortunate that all women know it.
Many a man's ability to put on a good front is due to his wife's ability as a washer-woman.
The cost of a thing does not worry the man whose conscience will permit him to beg, borrow or steal.
It's an easy matter to size up a man if his dog crawls under the house every time he sees him approaching.
When a man tells you how you ought to run your business just take a look at the way he is running his own.
It sometimes comes to pass that a man and his wife refuse to apply for a divorce because they actually love each other.
A man who has been married three times says it is almost as easy to please a woman during courtship as it is difficult to please her after marriage.

WOODSTOCK, N. B., SEPT. 19, 1906.

GENTLENESS IN THE HOME.

There is a small per cent of people who have constitutionally an amiable and gentle make-up, and in whose souls grace seems to work with comparative ease; but the majority of us need to be mightily subdued, and transformed, both by grace and discipline, to give us that patient, compassionate and gentle type of religious life, which is most needed than in the home. There is no place on earth where gentleness of spirit is more needed in the home, and perhaps most people who are convicted for a deeper experience, get their conviction from a conscious lack of home religion. The requisite kindness and patience for home life cannot be obtained simply by specific blessings, though they are essential, but it must come by a deliberate and prayerful study of kindness of spirit. Those we love most are entitled to the best exhibition of our religion—Selected.

IN A THOUGHTFUL VEIN.

You owe it to your mother—
To do your best to keep her youthful in appearance, as well as in spirit, by taking pains with her dress and the little accessories and details of her toilet.

Not to shock or pain her by making fun of her religious prejudices if they happen to be at variance with yours, or if they seem narrow to your advanced views.

To introduce all your friends to her and enlist her sympathies in youthful projects, hopes and plans, so that she may carry her own youth into old age.

To talk to her about your work, your studies, your friends, your amusements, the books you read, the places you visit; for everything that concerns you is of interest to her.

If she is no longer able to take her accustomed part in the household duties, not to let her feel that she is superannuated or has lost any of her importance as the central factor in the family—Success.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine Tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature is on each box. 25c.

A man who travels a good deal and who recently visited San Francisco confides to the Chronicle of that city his method of obtaining the utmost service from waiters.

"Usually, when I arrive at a hotel," he said, "I take a \$2 bill and tear it in half. One half I give to the waiter and the other I keep."

"Now John," I say, "if everything comes along all right the other half is yours, if not you don't get it."


"Usually I get the best of service and the most marked attention. The waiter always had his eye on the other half."

"I find this method to be the best I ever tried."

The Land of Old Age.

("An Elderly Woman" in Harper's Bazar.)
The Land of Old Age is an invisible country which is all about us. However young you are, you have been near it, and I should count you unfortunate indeed if in the heat of the day you had not turned into its shady paths and lingered a moment with its quiet dwellers. It is a very peaceful land; duty is rarely seen—so seldom, in fact, that sometimes those of us who have gone there to live for good feel that we have passed our time of usefulness and have moments of hot resentment that we are not out in the world doing its work for it. I feel that way myself often, and at such times make excursions outside. Always the gentle hands of my children lead me back to my own country; and I sometimes feel that the reason we resist taking up our places there is this sense that we are not allowed to come out when we wish, that we are kept prisoners—not through our own weaknesses, but because there are certain conventions as to what is suitable or unsuitable for us old people.

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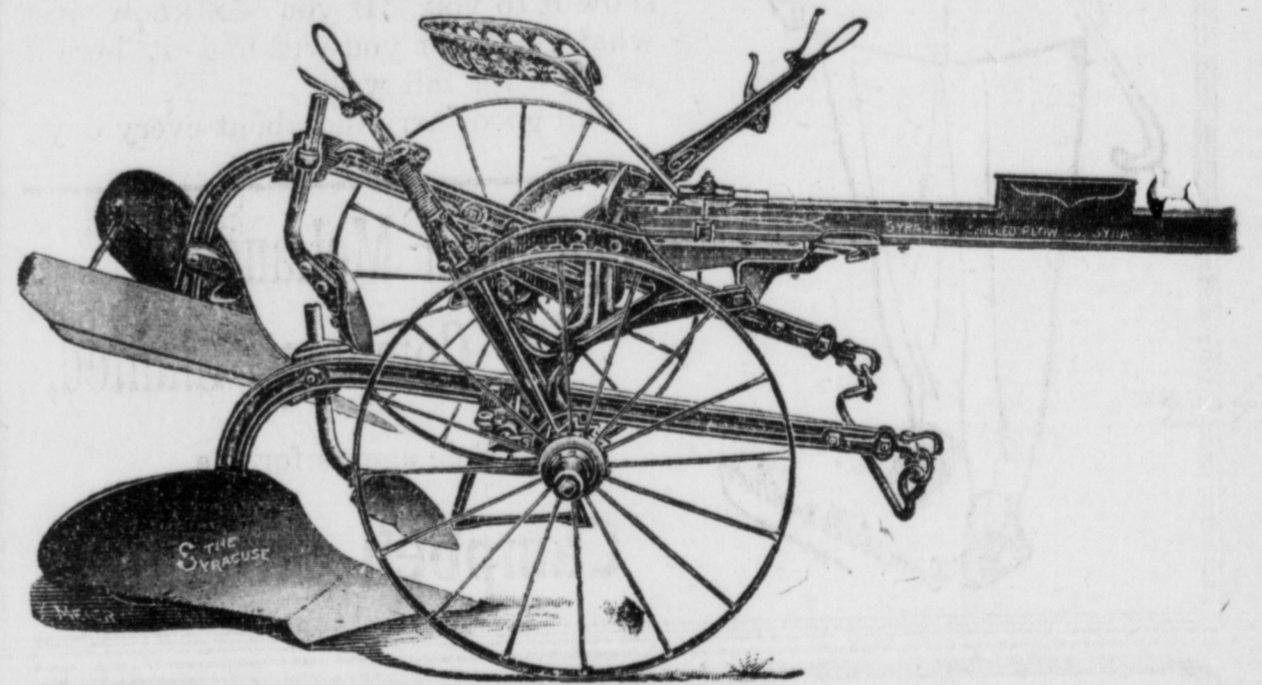
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