# SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1016.

# SIMPLIFIED SPELLING.

The One Thing Needed to Make Eng lish the World Language.

Having been for years a teacher o English to foreigners and to high school pupils as well as a student of modern languakes, the subject of an International language interests me greatly.

Certainly of the four important modern tongues English is the castest and simplest in grammer, having no awful genders such as German and no dreadful veries such as French and Italian. It has no balling depths and subtleties as the last two mentioned are at impossible pronunciation as the first. Yet, in spite of its simplicity, it is very hard language for foreigners to master. This is due, I feel, solely to its antiquated method (or lack of method) of spelling. The difficulties arising from the difference between the spel ing of English worsts and their pro nunciation are almost insurmountable fatal to its universal diffusion. How many natively English speaking people do we know, educated, ony, intellectual, who simply cannot spell, who

have given up trying? All over the confluent one hears re-iterated with boring menotony: "I like to read the English, but not to speak It is too difficult to pronounce. I

can never tell how a new word should be said." In French and German certain letter combinations invariably rep-resent certain sounds, while Italian is absolutely phonetic. In Italian school there is no such thing as a spelling lesson. Think what a saving of time temper and grey (or is it gray) matter this is to the growing child!

It is all very well to insist upon the classic origin of our orthography, but compare it for one moment with the near and aristocratic parent of the Italian. Yet liniint does not besitate to

discard all artificiality. I feel sure that only one thing will make English, which stands today as the easiest and most concise of guages-only one thing will make it the universal language, and that is sim-plified spelling.-J. H. Harris in New York Times.

PLEASURE'S ROBES.

The resea of pleasure seldem last long ensugh to adorn the brow of him who plucks them, for they are the only resse which do not retain their sweetnees after they have lost their beauty .- Hannah More.

..............

A man does not represent a fraction but a whole number; he is complete i himself.-Schopenhauer;

Waiting For Him to Start Something "I'm just waiting for my husband to complain about my extravagance this mouth."

"Ready to give him an argument eb?

"You bet I am. By mistake his golf club checks came to the house, and I've got 'em."-Detroit Free Press.

### Marbidly Suspicious.

"If you want to fight I'll hold your coat," said the bystander to the quan

"Great Scott! Can't a man even stand in the street without having a ck boy try to work a tip out of



Travel Often Spelled Misery Before We Had Railways.

TALE OF A WINTER JOURNEY.

Discomforts and Hardships That Had to Be Endured by the Passengers In an Old Style Trip Across the Alle-ghony Mountains in 1948.

How traveling is metamorphos these days, to be sure! Yet some men "fond of handling the ribbons" and some women who "want to see the scenery at their leisure" still regret "the spanking bays and rocking stageenach of the past."

Here is the way the Allegheny moun tains were crossed in 1846;

"It was midwinter when we arrived at Wheeling, and as the singecoach was to start at 5 o'clock in the morning no one thought of going to bed. so we took our way through the frozen streets to secure through tickets to Philadelphia. It was pitch dark and bitter cold - the damp. penetrating weather that reaches the very marrow

"The little den, called by courtesy the office, was filled with passengers as damp, cold and ill natured as our selves. There was a handful of coal burning in a small grate, and around it were grouped the round shouldered. unsympathetic people who were to be our fellow passengers. They glanced at us and closed up all the open space near the fire, as if to say: 'You don't set in here, we can tell you. You have no right to travel in our coach, any way!

"At one side stood a table, and a was a coffee pot and cups, some anu-sages frozen stiff and an unstructive loaf of breads over which presided a tail darky, who leaned against the wall fant asleep. We were told that we could get a good breakfast twenty miles away from Wheeling. "At the appointed time the heavy

old coach came up, and we all clam-bered in and stowed ourselves away pell mell. A short way from town there was a long hill, up which the rnes toiled, so this gave us all time to settle down for a quiet nap. One snore after another announced their success: in a few minutes six out of the nine passengers were oblivious of their misery.

"Not being sleepy, I studied the snor ers. A large fat man opposite me had a short, an ry snore. He snored so loudly that he woke himself up and glared about him impudently. as though he hoped they wouldn't make that noise again!

"The old lady who was crushing me up in the corner snored deeply and contentedly.

"Some one off in a dark corner had a genial way of joining in as though he snored merely to oblige the passengers; but the grand musician of the company sat opposite me. I never beard anything approaching him either for quality or compass. It was a back action sucre that began in a bold agitato movement, suddenly brought up with a jerk and ended with a whistle. The whole band was in full play

when we stopped with a tremendous Jerk, and everybody woke up with oaths or 'Pshaws!' over a bad folt. The sum mit gained, there was a sharp crack of the whip, the borses started, and ev erybody was jerked violeptly back ward. Soon the chorus began again however, and I joined in till the coach came to a full stop at the table where the horses were to be changed. "Stiff and sleepy and eramped from sitting so long in one position, the sun now rose and came in at all sorts of places, waking and blinding every-What a discontented lot we body. were! And we all hated each other! , "At last, breakfast-ab, bot coffee bam and eggs and buckwheat cakes! The meal was not half over before we were a band of brothers. We could not do enough for each other. All was har mony and peace." Nor was that all, for they drove into

## DAILY BOGUN MYNE COULL

a severe mountain storm and intense cold, darkness: the horses fell on the by roads; the stage rocked wildly in the wind and nearly blew over. Twen-ty-four hours of this, a driver fromen stiff and assisted down from the box. We do it now in six hours in a com-fortable bed. in a warm, well lighted car. Some "modern imps" are mighty

good angels. Our chief loss has been the gr cheerful, roaring open fires that people had in those days. The domestic vir-tues began to decay when people were reduced to sitting around a hole in the wall or a gloomy metal register, withwall or a gloomy metal register, with-out armchairs, stories, songs, grand-parents and little children rossting ap-ples or popping corn-friends and stran-gers dropping in and getting a warm welcome, a place in the circle and what Spaniards call "the love of the

fre."-Baltimore News.

Quite a Change Twenty-five years ago a young hus-band's wife went away for a two days' visit. When she returned he met her at the depot and embraced her and kined her. The other day she returned from a two weeks' visit. He met her and said, while he took a chew of tobacco. "Well, did you have a good time?". Kanses City Star.

Nev-y let your mirth, fubilation or pleasures dull your sympathy for the sorrow, suffering, sickness or indigence of other people.

# THIS WORLD CROWDED?

Why, Late Champlain, Frezen, Would Essily Held All its People. There are on this globe about 1.500.

000,000 inhabitan s. Most of us, who lack the scase of proportion, at the mention of this hig number are apt to speak of the "overpopulation" of the world. Yet if we spare a few moments' hought masshall better know what this represents. There is in my study, room a generapitic giole about fifteen inches in dismeter. On that sphere there is marked a little spot about the size of the point of a pencil-at any rute, so small as to make it impossible to write the initials of its name-Lake

Yet whenever Lake Champiain freezes over there is good standing room for every one of all the inhabitauts of the earth, and then this lake would be considerably less -crowded than some of the busy streets of New York. Indeed, strange as it may sound. every one, young and old, would find about one square yard to stand upon. Nay, more, if the very young and the very old would please to stand aside on the shores of the lake the remainder of the total inhabitants of the world could arrange a skating party where there would be less crowding thin is seen on a busy winter day on that skat-ing pond in New York's Central park. Sketching the picture is like visualizing the great tragedy of the human ra e-the few people of this earth do not begin to realize their immense opportunities and their unused resources: neanwhile they have the insame feeling that the world is "overpopulated." All our science, our religion, our art have not given us common sense enough to learn how to use them to live comfortably and happily-we, this mere handful of inhabitants on this immense world of ours. Nor does it look as if we were going to get to our senses before many generations to

ished lights in the heavens so that the least scientific eye can recognize these signs by sight, and the whole dome of the heavens becomes a vast

compass. If there were fire balloons or bencome placed in the heavens north, east, south and west it would be easy for any one to go in these directions by simply fol-lowing the signs. Similarly, if one wished to go, say, a hand's breadth to the right or left of the bencome one could easily do so. The largest stars in the heavens can be depended upon in the same way.

the same way. "If you put the front buttons of your coat on the north star or other direc tion stars," writes this authority. "your right and left breasts give you "your right and left breasts give you an angle of 45 degrees from the stars and your shoulders a right angle. Also, it is only a matter of a little prac-tice to be able to measure 15 degrees of horizon with your hand, so you can get any number of degrees to the right or left of your direction stars, and aft-er a little practice it becomes second nature to recogonize the points of the compass at sight, and you acquire the same sense of direction as bushmen, same sense of direction as bushmen, Arabs and people who live far away from civilization." - Popular Science Monthly.

Fasting For Health. Thousands of years before it was practiced as a religious rite fasting was practiced as a health measure in Egypt, India and China. Contempohis day Ibu Sina, philosopher and medical sage, argued the virtues of

w. D. Howells said of old age at one of his Sunday afternoons: "Age is modester than youth. I've often noticed that when I tell a mother that her daughter is the image of what she was harself at ministeen the mother is delighted, but the daughter isohe startied." Life in the Navy.

"And what do you sallors do?" asked a visitor on oue of our battleships, "Well," responded the jolly tar, "we does what we please until we are told to do something else, and then we does that something else pretty darn quick." --Boston Transcript.

Busy. "Bligging says a man ought to attend to his own business." "Yes. But be thinks it's his busin

to show everybody else how to attend to his business."-Washington Star,

How It Ended. "Ma and pa had a terrible argument

last night. "How did it end?"

"Ma's going to get a new dress and opera cloak."-Detroit Free Press.

Why Balt Causes Third. Salt has been described as a nature proportion as in the water of the ocean. Under general couditions we do not feel the existence of sait in our bodies because its effect is counteracted by a due proportion of water

When we cat an excessive approxi-FOR RENT-New and used planos of sait thirst is created by the demand nature that we also take a propor tionate amount of water and dilute the sait to its proper relative amount Any of the body will cause thirst for the same reason-that our physical welfare requires a balanced quantity of water



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PAGE SEVEN

rary to Cicero was Asciepiades, a Greek physician, who strongly advo cated this idea, and 1,000 years after temporary abstinence on the ground that it came easier than constant moderation.

Age and Youth. W. D. Howells said of old age at one

hamplain-upon it.

him?"--Washington Star.

### A Prize.

"Yes," said the girl who makes collections, "it is one of the best auto graphs. I have in my collection."

"But are you sure it is genuine?" "Positive, I cut it from a telegram that his wife received from him." London Telegraph.

### He Mailed the Letter.

First Woman-1 got a letter from you yesterday and it was dated a whole week ahead. Second Woman-So you really got it, then? My husband must have posted it the very day I gave it to him. Boston Transcript.

How easy it is for one to suggest a sure way for some one sise to manage a troublesome affair!

R.

and blundering, as long as greed and vanity, lust for power. the main inheritance of the aines and thoughts of the past, together with some of our time honored traditions, keep us in the cold, relentless grip of bygone ages.-From "Renewing the Earth From the Air." by L. H. Backeland, in Scribner's.

# SENSE OF DIRECTION.

A Help In Finding Your Bearings at Night Without a Compass.

An English survivor of the South African war who was often sent on long distance night recommissances has worked out a system whereby any one can be right at home in the dark with out compass or other instrument to ald the sense of direction. He worked out the exact movement and direction of the targest and most easily distin-

FRENCHWOMEN DO REGULAR ARMY WORK



neur us american Pres Amoriation French stri scouts on actual duty at the front in Vosger woold taking a noonday much

Scared by the Elephant. Tradition has it that Caesar brought elephants with him to Britain and that

they contributed to his composed of the island flaving unsuccessfully attempt ed to cross the Thumes Chesar toutt, a large turret on an elephant and oud ing it with bowmen and sungers dered them to pass the stream where upon the Britons, terrified at the stell of the unknown monster fled in contra ston -London Chronicle

Tabby

"Tabby" cat ought to be realfy "atabe," being derived from "atabthe name of a famous street in Righted which used to be the great marke for silks A tabby cat's "coul-11.21.5 thought to be like the wavy markingof watered slik

.Consistent Expectation. "The fushions for women are get ting more youthful every year," com mented one man "Does that meet with your disap proval?" "Not a bit. If it goes on this way a few seasons more my wife will be willing to give up her automobile and

ide in a baby carriage."-Washington Star.

Job printing of every description at DR. R. J. BESTUL, Veterinarian the Courier office. .

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