

PRONUNCIATION OF WORDS.

has its proper sound after the following consonants *f, p, t, k, C*, and *th* aspirate, whether they end the word or are followed by *e* final; as in *chiefs, caps, streets, franks, lates, hopes, fates, flakes, breaths, wreaths*. It has the sound of *z*, after *b, c* followed by *e* final, *d, g, gh, l, m, n, n, r, s*, and *ss*, as *v, aw, ay, ew, ey, ew, oy, sh, ng, th* vocal, *ch, oe, ie*, both in nouns and verbs, and whether these letters end the word or are followed by *e* final; as in *robs, robes, races, rods, rides, rags, rages, toils, dreams, sighs, rains, bars, waves, roses, passes, mazes, laws, days, news, preys, vows, joys, brushes, kings, breathes, churches, fogs, goes, flies*.

Sc before *e, i* and *y* have only the sound of the single letter *s* or *c*. Thus *scene* is pronounced *sene*; *sciolist*, *violat*.

S before *m*, in the terminations, *asm, esm, ism*, has the sound of *z*; as in *spasm, telesm, baptism*.

The pronunciation of the word which is radical or primitive in English is to be observed in the derivatives. Thus the letter *s* is directed to be pronounced as *z* in *bruise*, and this direction is to be observed in all its derivatives. *Earth* being directed to be pronounced *erth*, all its derivatives and compounds are to follow the same direction. So *freight* is pronounced *frate*.

POINTED LETTERS.

A has the short sound of *aw*; as in *alter, what*.

Ā [*ke*] is the same as *k*; as in *cap, access*.

E whether by itself or followed by *i* or *y*, has the sound of *a* long; as in *where, there, vein, survey*.

Ī has the sound of *e* long, or *ee*; as in *machine*.

Ō has the sound of *oo*, or French *ou*; as in *move*.

Ō̄ has the sound of short *u*; as in *come, wonder*.

Ō̄ have the short sound of *oo*; as in *book, look*.

U has the sound of *oo*; as above, as in *full, pull*.

Ū have the French sound, like *sh*; as in *chaise*.

Ĝ has the sound of *j*.

TH have their vocal sound; as in *thou, this*.

U has the sound of *yu*; as in *unite, use*, pronounced *yunite, yuse*.

In digraphs or combinations of vowels, of which one only is pronounced, the mark over one vowel designates the sound, and the other vowel is quiescent; as in *bear, heat, course, soul, blood, bow, low, crow, bestow*.

The digraphs *ea, ee, ei, ie* have uniformly the sound of long *e*; as in *meat, feet, seize, sieve*.

Before the letter *r*, there is a slight sound of *e* between the vowel and the consonant. Thus *bare, parent, apparent, mere, mire, more, pure, pyre*, are pronounced nearly *baer, paerent, appaerent, me-er, mier, moer, puer, pyer*. This pronunciation proceeds from the peculiar articulation *r*, and it occasions a slight change of the sound of *a*, which can be learned only by the ear.

The vowels in unaccented syllables are either short, or they have their first sound slightly pronounced. Thus in the words *produce, domestic, o* has its first sound, but pronounced rapidly and without force. In syllables which have a secondary accent, the vowel is often long, and little distinguishable from that in syllables having the primary accent; as in *legislature*, in which *a* in the third syllable has its long sound.

In syllables wholly unaccented, the sounds of the vowels are so rapidly uttered, that they cannot be designated by written characters; they are all sounded nearly alike, and any attempt at a proper notation of such evanescent sounds serves only to perplex or mislead the learner.

Words of anomalous pronunciation, not falling under the foregoing rules, are printed in an orthography which expresses their true pronunciation.

The Welsh *z* has the sound of the vocal *th*, in *thou*.

In the expression of the sounds of foreign words in English characters there is often an insurmountable difficulty, as there are sounds, in some lan-

guages, which English characters, according to our use of them, will not express with precision. But in regard to etymology, such exact expression of sounds is not necessary. For example, in regard to the affinity of words, it is wholly immaterial whether the Hebrew **צ** is expressed by *b, v, or bh*; whether **ך** is expressed by *d, th, or dh*; whether **ק** is expressed by *h* or *ch*; and whether **פ** is expressed by *k, q, or qu*. So in Arabic it is immaterial whether **ذ** is expressed by *th* or *ds*, and **ز** by *g* or *kh*.

The Arabic vowel *fatha*, I am informed, is differently pronounced by the Persians and Archaic; the one nation pronouncing it as the English *a* in *mate*; the other, generally, as *a* in *fall*. I have expressed it by *u* or *ar*.

It was desirable that the Russ, Saxon, Swedish, and German words should be printed with the appropriate types; but the utility would have hardly compensated for the expense of suitable fonts, and no essential inconvenience can result from the want of them; the English characters being sufficient to express the sounds of the letters, with all the exactness which etymology requires.

ABBREVIATIONS EXPLAINED.

<i>a.</i>	stands	for adjective.
<i>adv.</i>	"	for adverb.
<i>con.</i>	"	for connective or conjunction.
<i>exclam.</i>	"	for exclamation, or interjection.
<i>n.</i>	"	for name or noun.
<i>Obs.</i>	"	for obsolete.
<i>prep.</i>	"	for preposition.
<i>pp.</i>	"	for participle passive.
<i>ppr.</i>	"	for participle of the present tense.
<i>pret.</i>	"	for pretorit tense.
<i>pron.</i>	"	for pronoun.
<i>v. i.</i>	"	for verb intransitive.
<i>v. t.</i>	"	for verb transitive.
<i>Ar.</i>	"	for Arabic.
<i>Arm.</i>	"	for Armoric.
<i>Ch.</i>	"	for Chaldee.
<i>Corn.</i>	"	for Cornish.
<i>Dan.</i>	"	for Danish.
<i>D.</i>	"	for Dutch or Belgic.
<i>Eng.</i>	"	for England or English.
<i>Eth.</i>	"	for Ethiopic.
<i>Fr.</i>	"	for French.
<i>G. or Ger.</i>	"	for German.
<i>Gr.</i>	"	for Greek.
<i>Goth.</i>	"	for Gothic.
<i>Heb.</i>	"	for Hebrew.
<i>Ice.</i>	"	for Icelandic.
<i>Ir.</i>	"	for Irish, Hiberno-Celtic, and Gaelic.
<i>It.</i>	"	for Italian.
<i>Lat. or L.</i>	"	for Latin.
<i>Per.</i>	"	for Persic or Persian.
<i>Port.</i>	"	for Portuguese.
<i>Russ.</i>	"	for the Russ language, or Russian.
<i>Sam.</i>	"	for Samaritan.
<i>Sans.</i>	"	for Sanscrit.
<i>Sax.</i>	"	for Saxon, or Anglo-Saxon.
<i>Sp.</i>	"	for Spanish.
<i>Sue.</i>	"	for Swedish.
<i>Syr.</i>	"	for Syriac.
<i>W.</i>	"	for Welsh.