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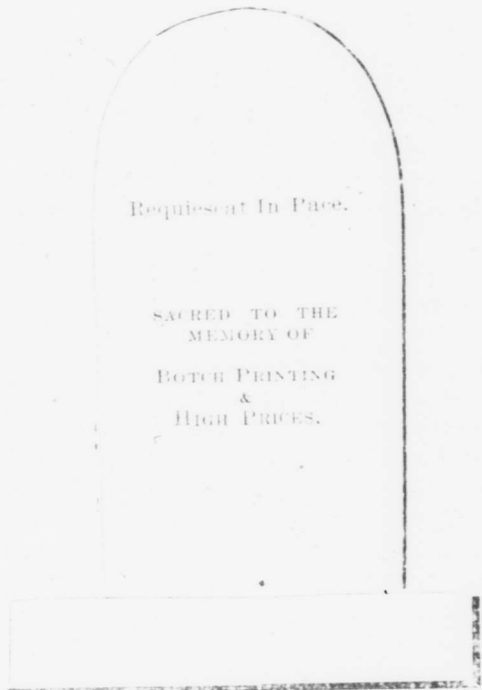
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Aristocratic Surnames.
Phonographers complain that scarcely one English word in a thousand is spelt correctly—that is, all its letters are not sounded precisely as they are in the alphabet. And such criticism is perfectly just, though from the force of habit, we seldom notice the faulty orthography of common words. But if we meet proper names, of persons or places, their eccentric spelling is more observable, and sometimes even puzzling. Highly educated persons often hesitate in pronouncing a proper name which they see for the first time. This remark especially applies to some aristocratic surnames, as will be seen by the introduction of the subjoined, with their recognized pronunciation.

Clanranald must be sounded as if written clannanald. Ferby, in speaking either of the peer, the town, or the race, should always be called Darly. Dillwyn is pronounced Dilon, with the accent on the first syllable. In both the th is dropped, and the word becomes Bly. Lyvelin is pronounced as Livelyn, and boys as Papis, with the accent on the first syllable. In Wanson and Wensony the first o becomes short u, and they are called Munsen, Punsony. In Mount the o is silent, and the word is spoken as Blunt. Brougham, whether referring to the late illustrious statesman or the vehicle named after him, should not be pronounced as two syllables—Braham or Braham—but as one—Broom. Colquhoun, Fuchessy, Mar or Manks, and Chomondely—four formidable names to the uninitiated—must be called shoon, Lukan, Marshbanks, and Chimley. Chomeley is also called Chumlay. Mainwaring and McLeod must be pronounced Mannering and Maclond.

The final x in dolynx and Vaux is sounded, but the final x in Deverex and Des Vaux is mute. In Ker the e becomes short a, and the word is called Kar; it would be awfully bad form to pronounce it u! In Waldegrave the de is dropped, and it becomes Walgrave, with the accent on the first syllable. Berkeley, whether referring to the person or place, should be pronounced Berkly. Buchan is called Lukan; Dea clerk, or Deandark, is Deandare, with the accent on the first syllable; and Beauvoir as Bevor. Wemyss is pronounced as Wems, and Willoughby D'Essey as Wilowby D'Essey; St. John must be Sijin as a surname or Christian name; when applied to a locality or a building it is pronounced as spelt, Saint John. Montgomery, or Mont-omerie, is pronounced Mungumery, with the accent on the second syllable. In Egin r tak s the hard son d it has in give; in Gifford a d Giffard it takes the soft sound as in gin—as it also does in Nigel. In Co yghan the o becomes short u, and the name is called Cunningham. In Johnstone the t is silent, strachan should be called Strawn; Heathcote, Hethcut; and Hertford, Hartford.

The av is dropped in Abergavenny, which is called Abergenny; and the n in Penryn, which is called Ferith. Feuchamp must be pronounced Feeham; Bourne, Burn; and Gower, Burk. Gower, as a street, is pronounced as it is written, but as a surname, it becomes Gor. Eyre is called Air; and Du Plat is Lu Plah. Jervis should be pronounced Jarvis; Knollys as if written Knolls; Men as as if written Mynes; and Macnamara must be pronounced Moenarah, with the accent on third syllable. Sandys should be spoken as one syllable—sands. St. Clark is also one word—inciar; and St. Lezer is called Selger, vaughn is spok u as one syllable—Vawu; and Villiers is called Villers, with the accent on the first syllable; Tyw it is called Tarr it; and Tollemache is pronounced Tolimash, with no acc on either syllable. The pronunciation of a dead Conservative (read r a title is Beckons e d, Betham should be spok u as, Boston and Mimes as Mills. Charters, by these moving in what seems to be the "Upper Suckles," is pronounced Charters, and Gains is called Gains. Gwynne is always spoken as Gagan, and Gwynn is pronounced Gwyn.

It will be observed that most of the above names are much abbreviated in their pronunciation, as recognized by "some of our best" which forms one of the many points against the cumbersome nature of English orthography.

Dean Swift's Joke.

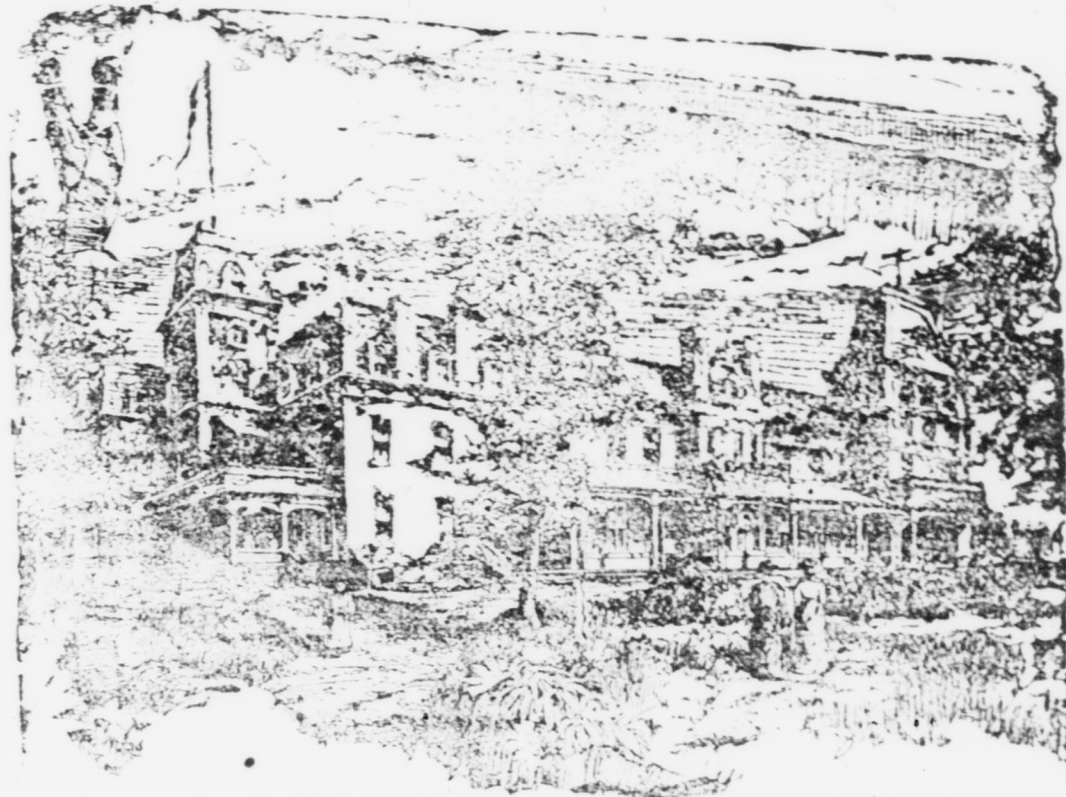
The witty priest was never happy unless eating. He had once printed and circulated some list words of a street roamer named Eilion purporting to be written shortly before his execution, in which the condemned thief was made to say: "Now, as I'm a dying man, I have done so writing which may be of good unto the public. I have left with one honest man, the only honest man I was ever acquainted with—the names of all my wicked or thieving friends of their trade, with a short account of the chief crimes they have committed. In many of them I have been a accomplice, and I heard the rest upon their own mouth. I have likewise set down the names of those who call on the names of the wicked horses we require an all of those who receive and buy our stolen goods. I have solemnly charged this honest man, and I have given him a promise upon oath that whenever he hears of any rogue to be tried for robbery or horse-stealing he will look into his list and if he finds the name in it of the thief concerned to send the whole paper to the Government. O' this I here give my companions fair and public warning, and hope they will take it. The paper was a good one, and had, at least, as a rare case with practical uses, a good effect, for street roammers were for a long time suspended."

"I don't want any more women customers," said an old broker, "I'm afraid of them. They have no sense. They can't sound a loss. If they are wipid out they think you are cheating them. They know nothing about a crop. One of them came in here one day and said: 'I want to buy a hundred shares of New York Central, and will pay cash.' 'Are you sure you have a money?' I asked. 'It will cost you twelve thousand dollars.' 'I'm sure I don't know,' she answered, opening her reticule. 'I don't think I've got as much as that here, but count it and see.'"

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