

11-1913

## Matters of Spelling

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### Recommended Citation

(1913) "Matters of Spelling," *The Academy Herald*: Vol. 2: Iss. 1, Article 14.  
Available at: [https://dh.howard.edu/academy\\_herald/vol2/iss1/14](https://dh.howard.edu/academy_herald/vol2/iss1/14)

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on the back and referred to as "my worthy friend and comrade", and to receive an invitation to the annual ball or dinner party given by the "Dictator", and to be seen frequently in his company, on his estate, and recognized as a "friend of the family," and to receive cheap presents bearing highly engraved cards. These gewgaws delight the heart of men, and is what they barter away their self-esteem and manhood.

Self-respecting, intelligent, and honorable men are thinking for themselves to-day as never before, and he who delivers himself up to the guidance of others, without the exercise of his own brains, descends to mediocrity and becomes a cheap second or third edition of his sovereign.

\* \* \* \*

### Matters of Spelling

1. In monosyllables, and words accented on the last syllable ending in a single consonant, preceded by a single vowel, the final consonant is doubled before a suffix beginning with a vowel.

Bid—bidden. Drop—dropped. Equip—equipped.

2. Words ending in *c*, add *k* before a suffix beginning with *i* or *y*.

Picnic—picnicked. Shellac—shellacked.

3. Words ending in *ieve*, and *eive*. If *c* precedes then *e* follows, receive, perceive. If *l* precedes then *i* follows, believe, relieve.

—C.A.M.

### A Ghost Story

There was a house out west that was said to be haunted. No one could live in this house with contentment. Every night about nine o'clock a peculiar noise was heard in the attic. Knowing that a cheerful home is a precious jewel, the owner offered a reward to any man who would stay all night in this house and find out what it was that disturbed every one that tried to live there. The twenty-fourth infantry was stationed near by and one of the soldiers volunteered to occupy the house. About eight o'clock the soldier went to the house, lighted a lamp, laid his revolver on the table and sat down to wait for the ghost to appear. So when everything was still, this noise began. It sounded like a miser counting his gold. Soon it started down the steps. When part way down it fell and rolled to the bottom of the steps. The soldier waited a few moments to see if it would move, then he walked to the steps and to his surprisethere lay a little monkey with a chain around his leg. Evidently some one had been trying to tame it and fortunately for him he had broken the chain and sought safety in this house as a prisoner fleeing from jail. The soldier picked the animal up and carried it to the owner of the house and told him it was the ghost that for a long time had frightened so many people.