of what is at the bottom of Lord Armstrong's quarrel with the technical educationists—his belief that in education, as in trade, the supply will equal the demand. It would take too long to show why this is not so, but, as a fact, universal experience is against him. In no country in the world is higher education self-supporting. Lord Armstrong tells us that Germany is repenting of its high standard of education, and fearing for the degeneracy of the race. This is not the impression that we gather from our German correspondents, and the war of 1870 showed no failure in Teutonic thews and muscles. Lord Armstrong invented a gun, and made a great fortune, and has thereby, moreover, become a lord, but it looks a little as if he did not know everything.

The same number of the *Forum* contains an interesting paper on the utterly detestable spelling of the English language. It is by a very competent authority, Professor March, the learned author of perhaps the very best Anglo-Saxon grammar. He notices the very curious little book by Dr. Gladstone (not the politician), who made very careful inquiries into the time required by the children of different nations in learning to read, and found that English-speaking nations were always at a great disadvantage, owing to the abominable spelling customary in English books. We say "customary," for it is nothing but custom that changes from generation to generation, and it is high time that these changes were brought under scientific regulation. Dr. Gladstone found that an Italian child of nine years will read and spell as correctly as English children at thirteen, though the Italian begins his lessons two years later. The Germans and Swedes have the like advantage. "The illiteracy of English-speaking nations is startling; ... other Protestant countries of Europe have almost no illiterates. One of the causes of this difference is the badness of English spelling. The reform of spelling is a patriotic and philanthropic reform."

The English Spelling Reform Association contains among its members all the most eminent of English philologists,—Max Müller, Sayce, Skeat, Ellis, Morris, Murray, Sweet, and others; and the English and American Philological Associations have already combined to publish a partial list of words amended in accordance with their true philology.

We occasionally observe very bold and ingenious attempts at amending the spelling of the English language in the written exercises that are handed in to us.

W. E. A.

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**The Indoor Winter Meeting.**

The Athletic Club games on Saturday, December 22d, were successful in every respect. At 1:45 the audience began to assemble, and by two o'clock a comfortable crowd had gathered, and was waiting patiently for the appearance of the athletes who were to contend for the cups.

The prizes were the same as last year, being silver beer-mugs; the record-breaking prize was a three-handled loving cup of large size and ornamental design. Many of the seats were occupied by the members of the fairer sex, who were interested spectators of the sports. The classes were all bunched in different parts of the hall, ready to "lend to the victor a cheer."

At 2:30 the first event was called, and J. C. E. de Bullet stepped to the line with the 16-pound shot in his hand. Upon the fifth cast he succeeded in breaking the record of 34 ft. 9½ in. by putting the sphere 35 ft. 4½ in.

The second event was the standing high jump. L. C. Wason, '90, and J. H. Slade, Jr., '92 were the contestants. The latter dropped out at 4 ft. 5¼ in., and Wason jumped 4 ft. 6½ in., thus winning the event. Next came the running high kick, with the same men as in the preceding event entered. Slade failed at 8 ft. 4 in., Wason winning and breaking his own record of 9 ft. by kicking the leather at a height of 9 ft. 1 in.

The fence vault (handicap) was the fourth