



Pronunciations have been indicated for words which present special difficulties. Marked letters are sounded as in the following words: *câpe, âs, fâr, fâst, noat, fall; mē, yit, fēr, thère; ioc, bit; rôu, nôl, fôr, wôn, dç; cûre, bût dîne* (French u), *rûde, full, bûrn; ðo, ðem, cañyon, Jean* (nasal); g = German g (guttural); x = German ch (guttural).

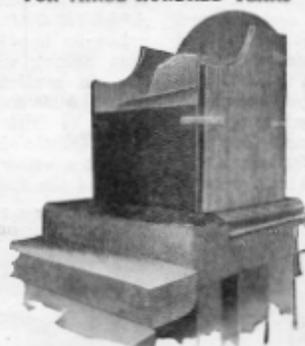
A. You know, of course, that members of the bird family—notably the goose—helped to teach men to write by furnishing them with quills, but did you know that some of the feathered folk helped to make the very letters that were afterwards written with their quills?

The owl, for example, with his horns and his beak, gave us our M. The letter Z was originally a duck, a duck of ancient Egypt that, in its modified shape, now waddles along at the end of the alphabet; while the lordly eagle leads the procession as A. In Egyptian picture-writing the eagle first had its proper shape like this: . Then as it came to be made by the Egyptian scribe in writing a running hand,  it was simplified to this: .

When the letter in this second form passed into the Phœnician alphabet and was used in stone inscriptions, it was easier to carve by using straight strokes of the chisel, and it was made like this: . After the Greeks put it into the alphabet, they gradually straightened it up to a horizontal position, thus:  making the letter as we have it to-day. Besides being so useful in telling other people's stories in books, you see the letters have interesting stories of their own, like all else in the world.

A1. Sometimes when you say to someone, "How are you?" the reply is "A1, thank you."

WHERE THE DEAD EMPEROR SAT FOR THREE HUNDRED YEARS



"On this chair—a crown on his head, a globe in one hand, a sceptre in the other, the imperial mantle over his shoulders, sat Charlemagne in his tomb, in which attitude he remained for three hundred and fifty-two years."—Victor Hugo.

Probably the person answering is quite ignorant of the fact that the term is borrowed from the shipping industry. It denotes that the vessel is in excellent condition. The letter A shows that the state of the hull is good, and the figure signifies that her equipment such as anchors and cables are equally sound.

The symbol is employed by Lloyd's Register of Shipping, the Committee of which, through the Society's surveyors, supervises the construction of vessels and denotes their class for the purpose of insurance, and also controls the testing of anchors and cables under the Anchors and Chain Cables Act.

AACHEN (â'xên), GERMANY.

It was the year 1000 after Christ, and the people of Europe, according to old stories, were daily expecting the end of the world. Otto III, the young and flighty ruler of the Holy Roman Empire, had come to Aachen, the old German capital 44 miles west of the Rhine, and announced that he was going to open the sacred tomb of Charlemagne. This lay under a marble alab beneath the dome of the chapel built by that great emperor himself, with marble columns and other materials taken

THE CATHEDRAL AND ITS NEIGHBOURING SPIRES



This is a view in Aachen, or Aix-la-Chapelle. The cathedral is shown on the immediate left. That peaked and high-arched chapel, which is now a part of the cathedral, contained the bones of the mighty emperor Charlemagne.