

# A brieve and a playne

introduction, teachyng how to pronounce the letters  
in the Britis tong, (now comenly called Walsh) wherby an  
English man shal not only th ease read the said tong righte:  
but markyng þ same wel, it shal be a meane for h'm with one  
labour and diligence to attaine to the true and natural  
pronunciation of other expedient and most ex-  
cellente languages Set forth by

W. Salehurst,

†(\*)\*†

\*

Printed at London by Roberte  
Crowley, dwelling in Ripe scutes  
in Holburne. The yere of  
our Lord. M.D.L.

\*✻✻✻\*

✻✻

✻

Cum privilegio ad imprimendum  
solum.

¶ To hys louynge frende, maister Rychard Colynge  
 boync. Whyllyam Saleburpe wytheth prosperous  
 healthe, and perfecte  
 felicitie.

¶(?)¶

\*



**H**e naturall inclination, the gentle amitie,  
 and the feruent loue and fauoure, whych you  
 inooste affectuouflye, entierlye, and peritlye,  
 do not onely owe, but haue, beare, and prote-  
 cute to warde me, my contrye, and contrye language:  
 and againe the so dayne seinblable behemente affecti-  
 ons whych I mooste comparable and ardent, mutual-  
 lye and dulye do beare towards you: hath caused me  
 to aboztlat, (if I myght spake my contrye lagage, I  
 needed not to bozowe the latine terme, neyther make  
 anye further explanation thereof) and to byng foze the  
 my late conceyued chyld befoze hys naturall and de-  
 stinated tyme of byrthe.

But what than? foze thys euyl chauce there lyeth  
 none othez remedye, but eyther (if he seme to haue his  
 lineamentes ryghtly ppoztonated, thoughe as yet  
 somewhat lumpythe) to lycke hym hereafter (as the  
 Beare doeth hys whelp) into a moze perfecte shape:  
 eyther els, if he shal appeare ouer muche monstruous  
 to take hym and thzow him into the horomelēs floud  
 of Lethe, where then he shal neyther greue the Pa-  
 centes hertes, noz yet offende the eyes of kynne, noz  
 straunyer.

But peraduenture ye wyll saye, what by all thys-  
 ye spake in parables, but I pray you frende Sale-  
 burpe spake plaine Englyshe to me. All ell thzefoze to  
 appeare in mine owne likenes, and to be as plaine as

A.ii. the

**The Epistle**

the playne of Saleſburie. The ſayde child is thys boke, whom you ſo inordinarely deſire to go abrode befoze the appoynted ſeaſon by the determination of the grate, diſcrete and pitye Poete Horace Flaccus, whoſe verſes be not farre from theſe in ſentence.

Whan that thy riddle penne, of ſame hathought contriſt:  
Et ceteris care ſe that thou tunc, the cord in work reuuld  
And let them iudge therein, whoſe hearts be giſtly growne:  
Let midle age, let vntipe yeres, theron their iudgmet ſowne  
I han maik thou well at wil (nine yeres in trial ſpente)  
Set foze the woꝝ of wiſdomes blame, that the in lot is lea  
The counte eſcaped ouce, can not be called backe:  
But ſhut by thoughts in hert maie, amed to wher they lack.

Yet neuertheles, for your faithfull frendthys ſake  
I wyll not onely wynte at thys, but euen aduſedly  
wyl forſake the prudent counſaile of the wiſe mā thus  
admonſhyng. I ſole differeth nothyng from a wiſe  
man whyles he keperth ſilence: yea, and I am not aba-  
ſhed to publiſhe theſe vnſauoury trifles (for the ſmall  
commoditie that you ſhall perceiue by them) amonge  
the honourable theatte, and woꝝthyfull company of  
the learned, whiche moſte plentiuouſly (thankes be to  
the Loꝝde) habound now in euery place.

But of whence than cometh this vnſhamefaſte  
boldnes? Wherof a licence graunted and prouided  
for me by the very ſame Poete, whoſe owne pꝛiſe, *phru*  
merite, and woꝝdes (ne leſt by vnapt traduction of the  
ſame, I ſhould diſgrace the diuine poeticall maieſtie)  
I wyll here ſubſcribe.

— hoc tibi dictum

Tolle memor, ceteris medium et tolerabile rebus  
recte concedi: conſultus iuris et artos  
cauſarum mediocriſ, abeſt virtute diſcreti  
ſententia, nec ſcit quantum Laetilius Aulus  
ſed tamen in pretio ea.

**Beſide**

### The Epilate

Besides thys, the head learned man of all our tyme  
euen Erasmus Roterodamus, holdeth sooze on my  
parte, for it is a true said sawe (sayth he) y<sup>e</sup> there is not  
w<sup>r</sup>itten so yll a boke, but it is worthy the reading for  
some consideration. And againe, he affirmeth euen a-  
bout the same place that it is expedient to heare the  
vblearned playe the oratours or preachers, whereby  
it maye appeare, what shall be decent, and what not.

Therefore (I saye) be it expedient or rather collera-  
ble to admittē as well some such vblearned w<sup>r</sup>itters  
as haue not the grace to obserue & o<sup>b</sup>eyn or comply-  
nes euery where, and at all tymes. Amongest whiche  
sorte I wyl not disdayne to be accounted, seyng I am  
adured to sacrifice in some parte your misde, though  
it be but slenderly to the purpose.

And in as much as I am fulli perswaded that you  
be the man to whom boeth for good learning & per-  
fecte iudgement therein, and for the fauour pretended  
towards this feble enterpryse, I needes muste com-  
mit thys boke (if for the littlenes it may be lustely cal-  
led a boke) not onely to be redde, corrected, & perfec-  
ted, but also to be defended from the cancred maliti-  
ous checkes of all those, who at all tymes canne be at  
better laysture to rebuke other mens doinges, than at

Do ought them selues. Thus fare ye hartelye  
well. At Chautes Inne in Holburne  
moze hastely, than speedely.

M. D. L.

Wylliam Salesburye to the  
Reader.



The occa-  
sion of þ  
makinge  
of this  
booke.

It was not longe after (gentle Reader) that  
I had compyled a little Dictionarye for the  
use and behoofe of my contry men, & Welsh-  
men, and the same sette forth and published  
at the kinges byghines licence and pleasure, but there  
came certayne persons vnto me, whereof some were  
Englysh marchers bordering vpon Wales: and some  
not skilled in the Welsh tongue, neuertheles hauyng  
good and honeste occasions, eyther for their promoti-  
ons and lyuynges, eyther els for trade of Marchan-  
dice and other their affayres to be conuersant in the  
sayde contrye of Wales, and peraduenture sometime  
chaunce to be amonge them that can not a worde of  
Englyshe.

And some other were such Welshmen that had be  
brought by from their youth and tender age; oute of  
the precincte of their natieue contrye, who thoughte it  
reproch to be vtterly ignoraunt in their mother tong,  
hauyng a mind also to come to some knowledg ther-  
in, wher by they myght þ rather (semyng lesse straung)  
renewe frendshyp and familiarite with their contrye  
folke and frendes, ( whiche thyng otherwyse they  
coulde not so conuenientlye byrnye to passe) & mooste  
chiefely to edifie them, as well in ciuyle institutions,  
as in godlye doctryne.

Nowe the other some, were such Englyshe men as  
had not so brgient a cause, nor so earnest an occasion  
to trauell in thys behalfe, but yet were they so feruent  
(as it seemed by their importune request) as they (whō  
I spake of before) whom the Grekes with one propre  
terme

To the Reader

terme cal is bligotious whose gentle herted disposition <sup>Language</sup> is alwaies addicte, bent, & geuen to be sene in all lan- <sup>louers</sup> guages, but specialye of their owne felow subiectes and conrey menne, though they purchase thereby but small gaynes, lucre, or wynnynge, whiche thynges be the honied swete baytes of the auaricious beastly misers, and contrary wyle the defiaunce of all liberal and noble stomakes.

Whan (I saye) suche menne resorted vnto me to question whether the sayde Dictionarye was as indifferent for Englyshe men to learne *Walthe* by, as for *Walthe* men to learne Englyshe: I answered that it was not al so indifferent. The reason why, if I should declare it, should not be easely perceyued but of the learned, who do vnderstande it already.

Whan emongest other communication hadde, they asked, whether the pronouciation of the Letters in *Walthe*, dyd dyffer from the Englyshe soundynge of them. And I sayde verye muche. And so they perceyuyng that they coule not profite in buildynge anye further on the *Walthe*, lackynge the foundation and grounde tooke (whiche was the *Walthe* pronouciation of the letters) desired me este sones to write vnto them (as they hadde sene me do in *Walsh* to my conrey men, to introduce them to pronouciate the letters Englyshe like) a fewe englyshe rules of the naturall power of the letters in our toung.

And so than, in as muche as I was not onely induced w<sup>th</sup> the premises, but also further persuaded that neither any inconuenience or mischefe might ensue or grow thereof, but rather the encrease of mutuall amitie and brotherly loue, and continuall frendshyppe, and

**To the Reader.**

and some commoditie at the leasse wise, to suche as  
be desierous to be occupied the rea boues. As for all  
other, euen as it shall neuer woꝝke thym pleasure, so  
shall it no displeasure.

Euen therefore at the last, I haue bene so bold as  
to enter pryse (condescendynge to suche mens honeste  
requeste) to inuent and wyꝛe these plaine, simple, and  
rude rudimentes of the woꝛd althe pronounciation of the  
letters, moste humbly desierynge the Readers to  
accepte them wyth no lesse beniuolente hu  
manitie than I hertely pretended to  
wardes them, whan I went a  
boue to treatte of the  
matter.

**The Pronunciation of the the letters**  
in the Britiſhe tongue.

ꝛ(\*ꝛ)  
\*



**T**he letters in the Britiſhe or Italiane tongue,  
haue the ſame figure & faſhion as they haue  
in Engliſh, and be in numbꝛe as here vnder  
neath in the Alphabet appeareth.

A b c ch d dd e ff g h i k l ll m n o p r ſ,  
t th v u w y.

Theſe be the vowels.

a e i o u w y.

Theſe two vowels

a, w, be mutable.

The diphthongs be theſe, and be pronounced after the  
very Greke pronunciation.

Ae ai au aw ay

ei em

ia ie io iw

oe ow oy

uwo

wy.

As euag-  
gel of mat-  
thew.

Theſe letters be called conſonantes.

b c ch d dd e ff g k l ll m n o p r ſ t th v.

The pronunciation of A.



**A**s in Britiſhe or Italiane in euery woꝛde hath  
the true pronunciation of A in latine. And it  
is neuer ſounded like the diphthonge au, as  
the French men ſound it commynge before  
B. l. m. o. n.



The pronunclation of the letters

m. o. n. in their tonge, not so fully in the mouth as the  
 Germaines sounde it in this woꝛde *Wagen*: Ne yet  
 yet as it is pronunclated in Englyshe, whan it commeth  
 before ge, ll. sh. rth: For in these woꝛdes and suche o-  
 ther in englyshe, *Domage*, *heritage*, *language*, *ashe*,  
*lashe*, *watch*, *calme*, *call* (a) is thought to decline to-  
 warde the sounde of these diphthonges ai, au, and the  
 woꝛdes to be reade in thys wise, *Domage*, *heritage*,  
*language*, *ashe*, *walsthe*, *caul*, *caulme*. But as I said  
 before, a. in walsh hath alwaies but one sound what  
 so euer letter it folowe or go before, as in these woꝛ-  
 des ap, cap. whyche have the same pronunclation &  
 significacion in both the tonges.

Wuche lesse hath a, suche varietie in Walche, as  
 hath Aleph in Hebrue (which alone y points altered)  
 hath the sounde of every bowell. Howbeit that com-  
 position, deriuacion, and the plurell numbre, do ofte  
 times in the commune walche speache chaunge a, for  
 e. as in these woꝛdes, *hnweish*, *seichfed*, *e besyl*. Ne-  
 uertheles e. then succedeth, and is also wꝛitten in the  
 stede of a. so that the Reader shall neuer be troubled  
 therewyth.

The sounde of B.

**B** In walche is vniuersallye reade and pro-  
 nounced as it is in Englyshe. Albeit whan  
 a woꝛd begynneth wyth b, and is toynded w  
 moꝛ woꝛdes comyng in a reason, the phrase  
 and the maner of the walche sprache (muche lyke af-  
 ter the Hebrues idome) shall alter the sounde of that  
 b. into the sounde of the Hebrue letter that they call  
 Beth


So do  
 these wal  
 the woꝛd

in the Britthe touge.

Weth not daggeded, oꝛ of the Greke Beta, eyther els des, com-  
of b. beyng consonant in latine oꝛ Englysh, is thus. uit, cuulo-  
cul, vices  
So here as b. in thys walthe woꝛde bys a frugter, is by ch be  
the primitive (oꝛ if I hold boꝛow the Hebraue trine) deriued  
the radicall letter, whyche commynge in the context of cubito,  
cubiculo,  
biscutus,  
of a reason shall not than be called b. but v. as in this  
texte: I bys: his snger. And sometime v. shall be tuc-  
ned into m, as foꝛ an ensample. by mys: my snger.  
And yet foꝛ all the alteration of this letter b, and of  
diuerse other (as ye shall perceiue hereafter) whyche  
by thur nature be chaungable one foꝛ an other, it shall  
nothyng let noꝛ hynder any man, to see in the true and  
pꝛoppe readinge of the letters so altered.

For as sone as the ydic me oꝛ pꝛopꝛietie of the tong  
receiuech one letter foꝛ an other, the radicall is emite-  
ted and left away: and the accesioꝛie oꝛ the letter that  
commeth in stede of the radicall, is foꝛthwyth wyte-  
ten and so pronounced after his owne nature & power  
as it is playne inoughe, by the foꝛmer exmple.  
Pꝛouided alwayes that such transmutation of letters  
in speakinge (foꝛ therein consisteth) all the difficultie (is  
mooste diligentlye to be marked, obserued, and taken  
hede vnto, of him that shall delite to speake walthe a-  
ryghte.

Howe C is pronounced.

 Maketh C. foꝛ loke what potter hath c. in 2s trine  
Englyshe oꝛ in Latine, when it commeth be- with ciue  
deducto  
or ciua,  
foꝛe a. o. u. that same shall it haue in walthe  
befoze anye vowel, diphonge, oꝛ consonant nasaliu  
nasaliu,  
what so euer it be.

36.

Howe

The pronuntiation of the letters

**accen of** **accentus** **discipul** **of discipu** **lus, c. of** **o. u.** **and** **before** **all** **maner** **consonantes,** **and** **in** **the** **la-** **stia.** **ter** **ende** **of** **wozdes.** **Also** **other** **some** **ther** **be,** **that** **sou** **nd** **no** **we** **.c.** **as** **.g.** **in** **the** **laste** **terminacion** **of** **a** **wozde:** **An** **exemple:** **oc,** **hoc,** **lloc:** **whiche** **be** **moste** **comune-** **ly** **re** **de,** **og,** **hog,** **llog.**

**Construc-** **cion** **is** **ta** **a** **wozde** **that** **begynne** **th** **with** **.c.** **cometh** **in** **construc-** **tion** **as** **thus:** **Car** **w,** **a** **harre,** **Ch** **wic** **a** **char** **w,** **a** **hind** **and** **for** **hoy-** **ning** **to** **gi** **a** **harre.** **Et** **ther** **els** **whan** **.c.** **oz** **.k.** **(for** **they** **be** **boeth** **ther** **of** **one** **in** **effecte)** **is** **the** **fy** **rst** **letter** **of** **a** **wozde** **that** **shall** **be** **compounded,** **as** **for** **an** **ex** **ample:** **An** **graff,** **angred,** **an** **griff,** **whiche** **be** **compounded** **of** **an,** **and** **of** **kraff,** **hred,** **hrib.**

**Carw** **is** **the** **abso-** **lute** **word**

The sounde of ch,

**Ch,** **doeth** **whollye** **agree** **wyth** **the** **pronuntiation** **of** **ch,** **also** **in** **the** **Germaine** **tonge,** **of** **the** **Greke** **Chy,** **oz** **the** **Hebrue** **Cheth.** **oz** **of** **gh,** **in** **Englyshe:** **And** **it** **hath** **no** **affinitie** **at** **al** **wyth** **ch,** **in** **Englyshe,** **ex-** **cepte** **in** **these** **wozdes,** **Chy** **chael,** **Chy** **chaelinas,** **and** **a** **fewe** **suche** **other.** **Ch** **also** **whan** **it** **is** **the** **radical** **let-** **ter** **in** **anye** **wo** **al** **the** **wozde,** **remayneth** **in** **muta** **ble** **in** **euery** **place,**

The sounde of d,

d is



The pronouciation of the letters  
 strange to the Reader, if that he hadde put **h.** after  
 the former **d,** in a signe of asperation, than to adde an  
 other **d,** thereto.

And as it semeth it is not passynge thre or foure, **C.**  
 yeres ago, synce they began to double their **d,** for be-  
 fore that tyme by lykelyhede they bided one constante  
 maner of pronouciation of their letters, euen as the  
 Hebrewes did at the begynnynge.

### Howe **E** ought to be sounde

**E** Without anye exception hath one perma-  
 nent pronouciation in **Walsh,** and that is the  
 selfe pronouciation of **E** pylon in **Grece,** or  
 of **e,** in the latine beyng scounde at yghle, or  
**e.** in **Englysh,** as it is sounde in these woordes, a were  
 wyke, wyke, wyke.

And the learner muste take good hede, that he ne-  
 uer do reade the sayd **e,** as it is read in these **Englysh**  
 woordes, we, beue: for than by so doyng, shall he  
 ether alter the signification of the woorde wherin the  
 same **e,** is so corruptely reade, eyther els cause it to  
 betoken nothyng at all in that speache. Example: **pe,**  
 signifyeth in **Englysh** and, if now, if ye read it **pe.** than  
 wyll it betoken thys letter **p.** or the byrde that ye call  
 in **englysh** a **pye.** And so **gwe** is, a webbe: but if ye  
 sounde **e,** as i. readinge it **gwol:** than hath it no signifi-  
 cation in the **Walsh.**

And leasse peraduenture the foresayde example of  
 the **Walsh** or strange songe be somewhat obscure,  
 than take thys for your owne or other songe for an ex-  
 planation of that ocher: wherby ye shall perceyue that  
 the

in the Britthe tonge.

the diuersitie of pronounciation of e, in these Englyshe wordes subscribed hereafter, wyll also make them to haue diuerse significacions, and they be these wordes; here, pere, hele, mele. Neyther yet do we vse in wdale at any tyme to wyte e, in the middle or last sillables and to leaue it vnspoken in readynge: as it is done by Scheua in hebrue, or as the maner of wytyng and readynge of the same, is accustomed in englyshe, as it shall be moze manifeste by these wordes that folowe: golde, sylke, purenes, Chepesyde: wherein (as I suppose) e. is not wozitten to the entent it myght be reade or spoken, but to mollifye the sillable that it is put in.

But nowe I am occasioned to declyne and straye somewhat frome my purpose, and to reueale my fantastie to yonge wyters of Englyshe, whose (me thynketh) take ouer muche paynes, and bestowe vnequallite coste (haunynge no respecte to the nature of the englyshe endinge e.) in doublynge letters to harden the sillable; and immediately they adde an, e (whyche is a signe of miltigatyng and softenyng of the sillable) after þ letters so doubled, as thus: manne, woꝛshippe Godde, wotte, wythe, goodnesse, hemme nette: whiche wordes wyth suche other like, myght wyth lesse labour, and as well for the purpose, be wozitten on thys wyse: man, woꝛshypp, Gode, wott, wyth, goodnes, hemm, nett: or rather thys: man, woꝛshypp, God, wot, wyth, goodnes, hem net.

For accordynge to the comen prouerbe, it is but folgy to bestowe moze, where lesse wyll serue.

Howe

An obseruation for mpyrnyng of englysh whyche in printyng can not so well be kept.

The pronuocation of the letters

Howe f is communely sounded.



In Walthe and U beyng consonant in walthe englyshe, or latine, be so nyghe of sounde that they vse mooste communely to wyte in walthe indifferentlye the one for the other. And I my selfe haue hearde Englyshe men in some contryes of Englaunde sounde f. euen as we sounde it in Walthe for I haue marked their maner of pronuocation and speciallye in soundyng these wordes: boure, hure, disse, figure, vithre: where they woulde saye, foure, flure, disfigure, fythe, &c.

But who so euer knoweth the sounde of the letter called Digamma ( whose figure is muche lyke f. but overwhelmed w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> dedowne, as ye see here f ) he shal also knowe there by the verye sounde of the single f. in Walthe.

The sounde of ff.

In Walthe hath but the same sounde that the single f. hath in englyshe. And they are sayne to vse the double ff. for the single f. because they haue abused f. in steede of v. a consonante. But in suche wordes as haue p. for the first letter of their original ( for to kepe the orthographie ) they wyte ph. and not ff. as thus. Pherr a Phawel, Peter and Paule.

The pronuocation of G.



In every worde in Walthe soundeth as the Hebrue Gimel: or g. in Deutche, or as g in Englyshe soundeth before e o u. And marke well that g. neuer soundeth in Walthe as it doeth

In the Britiſhe tongue.

doeth in engliſhe in theſe wordes, **George, gynger,** **G,** is but **G,** alſo, in walthe ſc m e y m e (whan it cometh in a con-<sup>bet pe ſe l e</sup> ſon) ſhall be turned into ch, and ſc m e y m e elided o<sup>den int-</sup> leſte cleane out of the word as thus: a chwed y h y n n y. ch.  
 ſaw n e w a d: k o c h n e l a s: a n d n o t k o c h n e g l a s.

And other while wordes compounded ſhall put a waye g, as theſe do, ſerloyw, dulag: to hoſe ſymple be theſe: ſer, gloyw: du glaſ.

### Of the aspiration H.

**H**, In euery worde that it is wyrtten in, in walthe, hath hys aspiration in ſpakinge alſo, and is reade, euen as in theſe wordes of Engliſhe, hard, heard, hart, hurt: and therefoze where ſo euer h, is wyrtten in walthe, lette it be reade w y t h a i l, and not holden ſtill, as it is done in frenche and Englyſhe in ſuche wordes as be derliued oute of latine as theſe, honeſt, habitation, humble ha- bite, &c. Except whan h, is ſetiled betwene two vowels in walthe wordes: for than it ſo c e t h n o t g r e a t l y e w h e t h e r h, be ſounded o r n o t, as in theſe wordes that folowe: bzenh n, kphyz, mehem, gwehen, behen, gwe- hydd, gohi z, &c.

### The ſounde of I.

**I**, In walthe hath the mere pronunclation of i, in latine, as learned men in our tyme vic to ſoude it, & not as they y w their eozre pt pro- nunclation make a diphthor g of it, ſaying, beſ dei, ceſ beſ, for bidi, ſibi. But to be howe t, ſoundeth in **E.** **Engliſh**



The pronuntiation of the letters

Englysh in these wordes: singing, ringing, drinking,  
drinkinge, nighe, sighe, might, right.

So the i, in euery syllabe in walsh hath eue y same  
founde as e, hath in Englysh in these woordes: we, se  
three, bre. And i, is neuer founde so broade in walsh  
as it is in this English word \*I. And beside that i, is  
neuer consonant in walsh, but euer remaining a bow-  
ell, as it doeth in the Germayne tong, or as tota in the  
Greke. And because they that haue not tasted of the  
preceptes of Gramer do not lightly vnderstand what  
thys terme consonant meaneth: I wyll speake hererin  
as playne as I can, for to induce them to vnderstand  
my meanynge.

\*Ego

Whan i,  
is conso-  
nant.

Therefore whan we saye in spellynge m, a, ma: i, e,  
ie, st, e, ste, maeste: (or) I, e, Ie, s, u, s, sus, Iesus:  
nowe in these two wordes, maeste and Iesus: i, is  
consonant. But whan I spel on thys wyle: i, per se, i,  
or: rk, or k, and wyth downge them togyther, read for k:  
than i, is not called consonant, but hath the name of a  
bowell.

Whan i,  
is a bow-  
ell.

And therefore if ye like to reade ryghtlye walsh  
wordes in whom i, is wytten, an other bowell im-  
medyately folowynge (for therein els is there no hynde-  
raunce for the straunge reader) than must you harken  
(nowe i, which I wyte for y) is founde in these en-  
glish wordes: i:ane, i:arde, i:arne, ielde, i rik, i elle,  
(oculus) iclow, iere, iok tong, iouge, Iozke, iou: And though  
these wordes be wytten here nowe wyth i, in the first  
letter of euery one, yet it is ment that you should read  
them as the i, were y, and as they had be wytten on  
on thys fashyon: yane, yarde, yelde, yelke, yell, yelow,  
yete,

I for y.  
I in thys  
word ipe,  
(oculus)  
is now ca-  
mune: y  
writen &  
read as it  
is in wal-  
sh.

in the English tongue.  
 yere, yoke, yong, yough, yoke, you.  
 Nowe I truste that the dullest wytted chylde that  
 neuer reade but two lynys, perceaueth so familiar a  
 rudimente.

The sounde of k.

**K**, foloweth the rule of c, in euerye poynte,  
 and therfore loke for the effecte of k, where  
 it is treated of the letter c.

The sounde of l.

**L**, hath none other differre in sound in walsh  
 than in English. And note that it neither cau-  
 seth a, nor o, when they come before it, so  
 sounde anye more fullier in the mouth, than  
 they do els sounde, comyng before any other letter.  
 And for the playner understandyng thereof, loke in  
 the rules that entreate of the sounde of a, and o.

And marcke when soeuer ye se l, to be the firste  
 letter of a worde, that eyther the same worde cometh  
 in construction, eyther els the worde is of an other  
 language, and but vsurped in walsh.

Of the straunge sounde of  
 Double ll.

ll.

llcan

The pronuncciacion of the letters

**W**l, can not be declared auyr chynge lyke to the purpose in wytyng, but onely by mouth: if ye than woll learne howe it thought to be founded: for (as it is said befoze of **D**) so the second **l**, is added in stede of **h**: but loke howe **Lambda** comming befoze **Fota** is sounded in the Greke: eue so pronounce we **ll**, in the walsh. And if ye coulde hit kindely on the right and iuste pronuncciacion of **lh**, thus aspirated: not leauyng vnsonded the entier efficacitie and the whole strength of the aspiracion: than shoulde not you be farre dissonant fro the true sounde of our walsh **ll**.

For the walsh **l**, is spoken the tonge bowed by a lyttle to the roufe of the mouth, and wyth that some what extendinge it selfe betwixte the foze teathe, the lippes not all touchyng togyther (but leauyng open as it were for a wyndowe) the ryghte wyrke of the mouth for to breathe oute wyth a thicke aspirated spirite the same **ll**. But as I sayde befoze, and if ye myght haue the very walsh sounde of thys letter: geue care to a walshman whan he speaketh culltell, which betokeneth a knyfe in Englyshe: or ellyll a goste:

The walshman or the Spanyard compose theire mouthes muche after one fashon whan they pronounce their **ll**, sayyng that the walshman uttereth it wyth a moze thicke and a moze mightier spirite.

The sounde of **M**.



In walsh hath such a sounde as ye heare it haue in Englysh or latine: but yet it is one of the letters that be chaungeable in construction as thus: **m** **w** **y**, **moo**: **ll** **at** **ue** **v** **w** **y**, **lesse** or **moze**

in the Britische tonge.  
more, mtoꝝbtoꝝ, moꝝe (and) moꝝe.

### The sounde of M.

**N**, Is none otherwisse sounded in **Walsh** than in **Englishe**: but sometyme (after the latyne maner) whan it comerth befoꝛe **b**, oꝛ **p**, in composition, it is thā turned into **m**, as ym blaen, whiche is compounded of yn and blaen: am parch, of an and parch, amp wyll, of an and pwyll.

### The sounde of O.

**O**, In **Walsh** is sounded accoꝛdyng to the ryght soundynge of it in **latine**: eyther eis as the sounde of **o**, is in these **Englishe** woꝛdes: a doo, a too, a too: and **o**, neuer soundeth in **Walsh** as it doeth in these woꝛdes of **Englishe**: to do, two. But marke that **o**, in **Walsh** goynge befoꝛe **l**, **ll**, soundeth nothyng more boyssoule, that is to saye, that it inclineth to the sounde of the diphthonge **ou** (as it doeth in **Englishe**) no more than if it hadde goynge befoꝛe anye other letter.


### The sounde of P.

**P**, In **Walsh** differeth not from the **Englishe** sounde of **p**: but **p** commynge in constructiōn foloweth þe rules of the **Debrue** phe: saue somtyme it is turned into **b**, as thus: pedwar bump, foꝛ pump. And sometyme **p**, in composition is chaunged also into **b**, as tohāwe say ymbell foꝛ ympell.


The pronouciation of the letters  
 ympell. And one whyle it is left out of the compound  
 wordes: as whan these wordes: kymell, kymoꝝth, be  
 wꝛitten foꝝ kympell, kympoꝝth.

And an other whyle our tonge geueth vs to sounde  
 it, as it were an h, as whan we saye: ymble, ymblwoꝝ,  
 ymblas, foꝝ ymple, ymplwoꝝ, ymplas.

### The sounde of Q.

 Is not receiued among the numbꝛe of the  
 letters in walshe as yet, but k supplyeth his  
 ro to me, & vsurpeth his office in eury place.  
 And y Greks are sayne to practice the same  
 feacte, as ye may se it done. Luc. ii. where he primum, is  
 wꝛyten foꝝ Quitino.

### The sounde of R.

 Is sounded alike in walshe and Englyshe,  
 but r, in walshe foꝝ the mooste parte is pro-  
 nounced wyth aspiration, especialle beynge  
 the fyrste letter of the woꝝde. And foꝝ the a-  
 spiracion h, they comunely put to an other r, as they  
 playe by d, and l, euen thus: rroyg wyd, rrodys,  
 rringill, Rufain: But the maner of some is to write  
 one greate captall R, (whan it is the fyrste letter of a  
 woꝝd) foꝝ the lesser double rr. Also r, serueth the furth  
 that n, dorth in Englyshe, that is to wytte, to be putte  
 betwene vowels metynge togyther in two soundyng  
 woꝝdes, foꝝ to stoppe the vncomely gapynge in speach  
 as ye shall perceyue by these woꝝdes: y-z awor: a-n  
 houre.

The

In the Walthe tonge.

### The sounde of S.



Soundeth in Walthe as it doeth in latine: neyther hath it two diuers soundes as it hath in Englyshe or french, for when it cometh betwene two vowels in these two languages, it is so remissely and lithly souded as it were a s, as by these two wordes of boeth the tonges it is manifestly proued. *Faicut a fasant.*

### The sounde of T.



Lyke wyse hath but one sounde, and that is as the latines sounde it in these wordes: *atate, tute, tegit:* Neyther do I meane that t, in Walthe is souded at anye tyme like th, as some barbarous lisperes do, who depraue the true latine pronuncciacion, readynge *Amath,* for *amat,* *dederith* for *dederit.* &c.

Howbeit marke well thys expection, that t, is neuer reade like c, thowout the walthe tonge, as it is communely read of Englyshe men in latine verbales endinge in *tio,* as *pronuncciatio, electio, subiectio.* &c.

Marke also, that it is the nature of t, to be turned into d, and sometyme into th, and some other tyme it is so lightly spoken, that the t, is quite lefte awaye, and there remaineth but the h, in stede of the t. But thys is to be understand wher, is the first letter of a word set in constrictio to be constricted or bulle together on thys fashon: *Da thic pny dwoy ne dalc.*

For before they be hewed, squared, and soynded together wyth theyr tenants and moztelles, they lye  
in rude

The pronouciation of the letters

**The: abo- lute wo: des.** In rude and vnderstedt tyme after this maner of sozte: **Th** a tryc yety Dwyne tair. Furthermoze t, in deriua- tion is left out of the deriued woꝝds, that they mighte sounde moze pleasaunte to the eare, as ye maye take these for an example: chwanor of chwant: g wnoc of gwync: monwreni of monwent: heneu of haint. &c.

The sounde of **Th**.

**Th**, hath the semblable and lyke sounde in **th** alth as it hath in Englyshe in these woꝝds: the ro we, thycke, and thynne: but it is neuer so lythlye spoken, as it is commonly sounded in these other woꝝds: that, thou thine, this.

Whoeuere **th**, wyttcn for the fyrste letter of anye woꝝde, the weth the same woꝝd to be than in construc- tion. For there is no walthe woꝝde standinge abso- lutelye that hath **th**, for his fyrste letter but t, is hys natyue and originall letter, for the whyche in construc- tion **th**, is communely vsed. Neither yet do we vse to wyte **th**, in anye woꝝde, and to reade the same as t, or d, as it is comunely done in these englysh woꝝdes:

**Th**owles  
inne.

Thomas, thone, threasure, Thauls inne: whych be moſte vniuersallye spoken after thys sozte: Tomas, trone, treasure, Daules inne.

The sounde of **Th** beyng consonant.

There be  
but fewe  
woꝝds in  
whalthe  
beginus  
wyth **th**.



Specciallye beyng wyttcn in thys maner of fashon **th**, soundeth in walthe as in englysh or latine, whā it is a consonant. And it light- ly neuer begynneth a woꝝd, except the woꝝd be con-

In the Britiſhe tonge.

be conſtructed & ioyned with one or moze woꝝdes. For than b, or m, beyng the originall or radical letter, is transmuted or chaunged (accoꝝdyng to the coꝝgruite of the tonge) into b, a conſonant.

The ſounde of u, beyng a  
vowell.

But u, wyꝝtten after this maner u, is a vowel, and ſoundeth as the vulgare Engliſhe people ſoude it in theſe woꝝdes of Englyſhe: truſte, bury, buſye. But knowe well that it is neuer ſounded in walſh, as it is done in any of theſe two Englyſhe woꝝdes (notwythſtanding the diuerſe ſound of them) ſure, lucke. Also the ſound of u, in french, or u, wyth two pꝛickes ouer the heade in Teutche, or the Scottiſhe pronũciation of u, alludeth ſome what nere vnto the ſound of it in walſhe, though yet none of them all, doerh ſo exactly (as I thynke) expreſſe it, as the Hebraick kabbuts doerh.

For the walſh u, is none other thing, but a meane ſounde bet wyꝝte u, and y, beyng latyne vowels. And therefore who ſo euer wyll deſinerly learne the walſh ſound of u, let hym once geue eare to a walſh man, whan he ſpeaketh in walſhe, the woꝝdes that ſignifie in engliſhe obedience (or) one \* chaſſe: which be theſe in walſhe. ubudd, ullun. And this vowel u, alone amonge all the letters in walſhe, ſwarueth in ſounde from the true latine pronũciation. Neither is u thus ſounded, but of the vblearned, who abuſe it for y, & that moze often of vs that be of Northwales, than of the Southren walſhman.

D.i.

The



The pronuncciacion of the letters

The founde of w.



In Walthe and englyshe hath but one figure and power, though it chaunceth to haue two diuers names, for in Englyshe ye call it double uu, & in Walthe we geue it the name of a synge u, but than soundynge it after the Latine pronuncciacion.

But the lesser Greke o, ioyned togyther wyth the Greke y, made a diphonge, oz the Hebraik *Uaf. cum puncto* church in venter, eyther oo, in these englyshe boables: booke, looke, boorde, woorde, shall rather expresse hys name, than hys propre efficacye.

But hys owne power, and peculier office in Walthe, shall there no letter nor letters moze preciselye set it forth than the w, it selfe, wyth the Englyshe pronuncciacion. For althoughe the Germanes vse a w, yet in some woordes sound they it (to my hearing) as the forther u, were a bowell, and the latter a consonant, where we the Britons sounde both uu, wholly togyther as one bowell, wythout anye sondrye distinction, but beyng alwayse eyther the forther oz the later parte of a diphonge in englysh on this wyse: wyth, awo: and in Walthe as thus: wyth, awo.

The founde of x.



Is not founde as yet in the Walsh Alphabet: for the walsh speach hath no nede of hys office: bicause that suche walsh woordes as be deducted of the Latine, turne their x, into s, as do these: *crws, nos, estestenna, escommuna, estean, bieses*, whiche come of *crux, nos, extendo, excommunico, extraneus*.

in the Britiſhe tonge.

*Francus bifectus.*

### The ſounde of **P**.

**P**, Is ſounded in Walſh as it is theſe Engliſh words: yn, ſynne, ys, thynne, wyne. Neither yet, as it is ſounded of the commune people in any of theſe two words folowng: wyde, wyng. Alſo y, beyng a woorde counteruayleth the ſignification of (the) in Engliſh: and of *le* in French, or of the articles *da, do,* in Hebrue & Greke, as thus: y dyn, whoſe prope ſignification in Engliſhe is not communely bleſed, excepte a man ſhoulde ſay, the perſon: but *Le homme,* ſhall well declare it to any that ſhall be ſkilled in the French.

### Of the letter **Z**.

**Z**, In Walſhe is vnknowne in ſo much that it was neuer placed in anye walſhe worde hitherto: Neither neede I once to ſpeake of it but bycauſe I woulde put the reader utterly oute of doubt in this behalfe.

### Of the Abbreviations.

**E, o,** Be neuer bleſed in the Walſh, neyther occupy they but few abbreviations of ſyllables, but write euery ſyllable at length, ſaue only in ſome prope names of men as they do in theſe: *Edeñ,* for *Edeyned*: *Eign* *Eigion*: *Grō,* for *Grono*: *Gr.* or *Gruf,* for *Gruffich*: *Jean* for *Jean,* for

The pronounciation of the letters

Foz, for Fozwerth: Ken, for kentwoyck: Lln for  
 Llewelin: Mad, for Madock: Tud, for Tuder. &c  
 whiche kynde of breuiations be not bitwoythy the  
 markinge of all such englyshe men, as shall be eyther  
 pnegotaries, clarkes, or counsaillours in Wales.

Foz I do remembre that once a clarke (being but a  
 yonge begynner) at an assise in oure countrey, redde a  
 mans name belinge (shorte wrytten) Eden ap Fozum.  
 wher he should haue read it Edenyuet ap Fozwerth  
 And so the ceter called styll, Eden ap Fozum come in  
 to the court, or lose .x. li. that shalt thou lose, for thou  
 was sene here euen now.

And true it was, for the person that was so oft and  
 so loud called, stode styll all thys whyle euen at the  
 cryers back, and answered not at al (being so straung-  
 ly misnamed) until he had welmost loste amercement.  
 At whych feact (the geste at the laste perceuyed) was  
 there no smale laughte of all the whole courte.

A brieve rehearfall of all the rules be-  
 fore, with certaine other additions  
 thereto percap pnyge.

A is mooste vnlke of pronounciation to the  
 Hebrues Aleph.  
 B, mooste entierly resembleth the nature of  
 Beth.  
 C, and K, benot vnlke in sounde vnto Caph & Koph.  
 Ch, chi, chech, and caph with raphe, be of one sounde.  
 D, soundeth as Daleth Daghe sata.  
 Dd, conteyneth the power but of one letter, and that  
 of Dhelta, or of Dhaleth, not Daggellet.  
 E, is.

A cspart-  
 son of the  
 pronun-  
 ciation of  
 letters in  
 Walsy to  
 the pronu-  
 ciation of  
 letters.  
 E. 121



In the Britiſhe tongue.

**E**, is much ſpoken after the ſound of the vowels **Se** gol, or **Epsilon**.

**F**, and **Beth**, withoute the poynte **Dagges**, or the **Greke Ueta**, be as one in ſounde.

**ff** (or **ph**), agree in pronouciation with the **Greke Phe**, or the **Hebraick phe**, not poynted wyth **Dages**.

**G**, is ſounded as **Gimel**.

**H**, and that peration **he**, be equal in power.

**I**, in euery poynt agreeth wyth the **Greke iota**.

**L**, **Lamedh**, and **Lambdha**, diſagree not in ſound.

**ll**, counreuayleth **Lambda** coming befoze **iota**.

**M**, **n**, **mem**, **nun**, and **my**, **ny**, differ not in ſound.

**O**, and **Omega** ſhall ſounde as one

**P**, doeth as well imitate **Phe** and **Phy** in ſounde as in other conditions.

**R**, hath a peculiar conſonantie tolyth **Rho**.

**S**, **Samech**, and **Sigma** maye go togyther well enough for their tune.

**T**, ſoundeth as **Teth**, or **Taf** in the **Greke**.

**Th**, hath the very ſounde of **Theta** or **Taf** hauinge no **Dages**.

**U**, beyng conſonante ſoundeth as **Beth** withoute **Dages** or as **Ueta** doeth.

**V**, beyng bowell is read as **kubuts** and not muche hnyke vnto **Pſſion**.

**Z**, hath the very ſounde of **Pſſion**.

What conſonitee the Letters in  
Walſe haue wyth the Greke  
letters.

D.iii.

It

The pronouciation of the letters



**T**hemethe not only expedient for the learner hereof, to compare the pronouciation of the letters, to the Hebrewes phrase of foundyng, butt is also requisite & no lesse necessarie (for hym that hath a syghte in the Greke tongue) the same also to sozt after the diuision of the Greke letters.

Wherfoze we call four of the consonantes thynne, bicause they include no maner of aspiration in them: And the same foure shal we call thyck, whan they are aspirated, of whom also thze be called meane, or middle letters, and that whan they be nether thyck, nether yet thynne.

The thynne letters be these: k p t l.

The thycke letters are these: ch ph ll.

The middle letters, g v dd.

And as these letters in the Greke inflexions do passe one into an other, so haue they in **W**althe, such like alteration.

The mutable or chaungeable bowels be these: a, u.

The mutable consonantes be these: b p c, or k d ll m t. And all the reste as well of the bowels as of the consonantes be immutable.

Of the sounde of ch, g, i.

**Ch** in **W**althe  
**It** is but  
**one** letter  
These thze letters, ch, g, i, haue neuer the like sounde in the **W**althe tong, as they haue in these englysh wo:z des, chere, gentle, iack.

Of contraction vsed in **W**althe.

**I**so shal be contracted into o, longe, or into aw: as digio, digo, or digaw: lidio or lidaw. And such maner of contraction is moze peculiet vnto the Southzen **W**alshmen

In the Britiſhe tonge.  
 woꝛdſmen, than to us of Northwales.

**Of accente.**

The obseruation of accente is that shall do muche  
 towarde the attaynyng of the natyue pronounciation  
 of any language, in so muche that sometime the alte-  
 ration of accent shall altere also the signification of the  
 woꝛd, as in these woꝛdes in Greke: Neos, Tomos, Pharos,  
 and these in walshe: gwoydd, gwoyll, gwoyꝛ; and in En-  
 gliſhe: theſt, differ, pꝛoude, denye. &c.

Certayne Engliſhe woꝛdes wherof ye  
 may gather the walshe pronounciation  
 of the letters.

Archangell, Beynge, Called, Michael, Diſcomfy-  
 red, \*Dde, Cuer, \*ſillaynous, ſend, Gger, Dim, Itch dd for th  
 Feldyng, Keſt, Laye, Wellett, Durmureyng, Not, \*A for G  
 Quer, Breuayled, Rauenyng, Horrible, Satanas,  
 Tormented, Thozowe, Maleant, Buſines, Docthe,  
 &c.

These be woꝛdes wherem the letters be  
 moſt vnticly ſounded to the walshe pro-  
 nounciation of them.

All, Combe, Dombe, Cealle, Cꝛue, Checke, Adde,  
 Ele, ſythe, Sender, Engyn, Humoure, Honour, In,  
 Jaundice, Fall, \*Dhill, Reason, Season, Thomas, \*A be ble  
 Chat, Uncle, Ydle, Syngyng. de.

The ſignification of a, in walshe.



in walshe ſet before an interrogatiue reaſo  
 betokeneth (together) in engliſh as thus: a d  
 dato ef, a y vnce nt dato; p is (if I might ſo  
 wel phꝛaſe (e in engliſh) whither wil be come  
 of whe

### The pronouciation of the letters

oz whether wyll he not come. **A** y hon ywo ef: is this  
he: **A** y hon ywoz twolpddyn becles: is this the bishep  
oz leape yeate. But ye muste marke that sometime a,  
in **W**althe is the forther piece of ac, whyche agreeth  
in signification wyth (ac) in latine, and wyth (and) in  
Englyshe: And thys conuinction ac, in **W**althe, set in  
construction befoze a woꝛde that beginneth wyth a  
consonaunt shall put away c, and shall be reade after  
the onli power of a, as thus, **Deo** a **W**at: vn a dau,  
and not **Deo** ac **W**at: vn ac dau.

### The signification of **Y**.

**Y**, betokeneth in Englyshe (the) as thus: y gwoz, the  
man: y woꝛaie, the woman. And when y, cometh befoze  
a verbe, it betokeneth (ther) and if the verbe oz woꝛd  
that foloweth after the y, begyn wyth a bowel, than  
shall there be added d, dd, oz t, vnto the y, for to stop  
the ouermuch gapinge that the metynge togyther of  
the to many bowels should els haue caused, as thus:  
y d, oedd, y dd, oedd (oz) y t, oedd, there was. And some  
tyme y, include th in it selfe such a relation as schyn in  
the Hebrew doeth.

### A generall rule for the readynge of **W**althe.



Though there be diuerse pꝛecepts heretofore  
wꝛitten of the **W**althe pronouciation of the  
letters, I woulde thinke it not ouermuch di-  
sonant nor yet to wyde from the purpose, to  
admonish you in this behalfe, that is: that you oughe  
not

**In the English tongue.**

not to reade the **W**althe accoꝝdyng as ye do the Englyshe or frenche, but even after the readyng of the latine. For in readyng Englyshe or frenche, ye do not reade some wordes all so fully as they be wrote.

And in manye other ye seme to sounde the sillables moze fully than the expzessed letters do geue. A hich maner of readyng is so bitterly eschued in walsh, as ye perceyue it to be exactly obscured of the that perfectly reade the latine tonge. Neyther do I here to call them perfite and latinelyke readeris as manye as do reade: angnus, mangnus, for agnus, magnus, ingnis, for ignis: sârus, for sâctus, :sawol for (sai:lowol, for sol:and for mihl, meichei: and ego w for ego: tu w for tu:and quich lightly, in fide of quib legit. &c. Therefore ye muste learne to forgete such maner of pronunciation agaynste ye prepare youre selues to reade the walsh. Whore over ye ought to knowe, that these wordes dzing-o, gwing-o, kyn-ga, myng-en, anglod, angred:and the most part of such lyke walsh wordes hauing ng, in them, and beyng of moe sillables than one, shall be reade as these Englyshe wordes be (but ye muste admite them to be reade no woꝝ as of two sillables eury woꝝde) kyn-ges, ryn-ges, byng-eth, syn-gech: for euen as ye do not reade them: kyn-ges, ryn-ges, byn-gech syn-gech: but rather in thys wyse: kyn-ges, ryn-ges, byng-eth: euen so do we sounde: dzing-o, a not dzing-o: gwing o myng-en, and not myn-ge: & beci yet as ng, maye be seuered and parted in this englysh woꝝde (syn-gech) (but the significatio altered) so haue we some wordes in walsh (wha they are spoken) in whow the sillables maye be seuered in ng, as in these: an-gech, llan-g-wm, tein g-ych, &c.



The pronunclation of the letters



**M**Ye ouer maister Celkingborn, thysshalbe further to certify you, that mine intent heres in was not to instructe or to teach any man abso surely the walthe tonge, but rather to lre the reader haue a sight of it (as it were thow a lattesse) and to proue whether it were possible for a man to come to the naturall speach of a language, wyth the onclie introduction of pzeceptes. For I meane nothing lesse thā to go about to enduce any English man to learne inwalthe ( but for hope to attayne so muche englische of such in permutation thereof ) but contrarily I would sayne wyth all industry endeuer my selfe to helpe and

Englische further all walthe men to come to the knoweledge of Englyshe, as a language mooste expedient, and most woorthiest to be learned, studied, and enhalced, of al them that be subiectes, and vnder the obeyfaunce of the imperiall diademe, and triumphante Sceptre of Englande, euen for the attaynement of knowledg in Gods woord, and other liberall sciences whyche thow to be the benefite of the learned men of our dayes be communely hadue and sette forth in the said Englyshe tongue.

Walthe Agayne as for the walthe tonge euen as it is not now to be compared wyth the Englyshe language, so is it not so rude, so grosse, nor so barbarous, as straungers beyng there in all ignozante and blynd do adlyuge it to be: nor yet (to speake indifferentlye wythout all affectiōs) is it not all so copious, so fyne, so pure, nor so fully replenished wyth elegaunce, graces, & eloquence, as they them selues suppose it.

Howbeit whan the whole Isle was communely

lye

In the Bytche tonge.

ly called Bytayne, the dwellers Bytches oz Bytches, who are  
 and accozdyngelye their language Bytche, I wyll <sup>islande</sup>  
 not refell noz greatelye denye, neyther can I lustelye <sup>& choise</sup>  
 gaynsaye but theyr tonge than was as copious of fit <sup>be & wa</sup>  
 woordes, and all maner of propre vocables, and as <sup>les were</sup>  
 well adournated woth woorthypfull sciences, and ho <sup>called</sup>  
 nozable knoweledge, as anye other barbarous ton <sup>retains</sup>  
 ges were. <sup>were the</sup>  
<sup>Walthe-</sup>  
<sup>nicus all-</sup>

And so styll continued (though their Septre de-  
 clined, and theyr kyngedome decayed, and they also  
 were dziuen into the moste infertyll region, barenest  
 contrey, and moste desert prouince of all the Ile) by-  
 styll the conquest of Wales. For than (as they saye) the  
 nobles and the greateste men of the countrey beyng  
 captiues, & brought prisoners into the towre of Lo-  
 don there to remayne durynge their liues, desired of  
 a commune requeste, that they myght haue woth the  
 all such bookes of their tonge as they moste delited in,  
 and so their p:cion was hearde, and for the lightnes  
 sone graunted, and so brought woth them al the prin-  
 cipalrest and chiefest bookes, as wel of their owne, as  
 of other their frendes, of whom they could obtayne  
 any to serue for their purpose: whose mind v. as none  
 other but to passe the time and their predestinate, per-  
 petual captiuite in the amencus varietie of curtesie  
 dyng and reuoluyng manye volumes, and sent y. e  
 bookes of diuerse sciences and straunge matters.

And that is the commune answer of the w. althe  
 Bardes (for so call they their Poets oz rime makers) <sup>Words,</sup>  
 whan a mā shal object oz call in their reach the solth  
 Call. lii

The pronuniation of the letters

1206.

Hyrcu  
Kymr  
at 180  
frudd,  
E r tw  
gwyn ap  
thant ac  
gudd, yr  
celer oed  
d 180  
w w  
r w  
r w  
E r tw  
Glyn,

Uncertainie and the phantasticall vanities of theye  
prophecies (whych they cal *Butes*) or the doubtful  
face and kinde of stuing of their vncanonised saynces:  
whom that nor wythstandynge they boeth inuocate  
and woꝝthyp wyth the mooste hyghe hon: noure and  
lowelst reuerence. Advyng and ailegynge in excuse  
thereof, that þ reliques and residue of the bokes and  
monumentes, as well of their *Sayntes* lynes, as of  
their *Bute* the prophecies and other sciences (whych  
perished not in the tower (for there they iape certayne  
were burned) at the insurrection of their contrye re:  
bell *Owen Glyn* doo: were in like maner destroyed,  
& bitterly deuastat, or at the least wyse that there esca:  
ped not one, that was not incurablye maymed, and  
irrecuperablye toꝝne and mangled.

But hereto it mighte rather appertayne to speake  
to renewe, and call to remein bꝛaunce the dilligent and  
curious obseruaunce of olde antiquite, as concerning  
exact pronuniation and ryght soundynge of woꝝdes  
syllables, and letters, whych euen the noble nation of  
the *Grekes* (who ex:el:ed all other nations in euerie  
kynde of good learnynge) dyd not once neglecte to in:  
uent, practice, and duly execute foꝝ the wontynge, ex:  
ercisynge, and perfectinge of the t:unge of youthe, to  
the ende it should not so easely stamble, stagger, lisp,  
or relent besyde the iust and true soundynge of all such  
letters, syllables, and woꝝdes, as were hard to be sou:  
ded foꝝ the strange concourse and vntymt merynge  
together of the ouer manye consonantes in the same:  
Of whych soꝝte the *Grekes* haue many woꝝdes, as it  
appeareth in thys berse.

*Graun . helionum es. hꝛos phihonos es: age i ouxi phos e. hithron.*

And

In the Britische tongue.

And suche berles be called of them *Chalepo*: that is: harde to pronounce accordynglye. And the Latines haue deuised them for the same purpose thys other berse, *Stridenz rotis, thinc pester totid a seps striz.* And the diligence of the auncciente Englishe men hath found out (to auoyde the volutable and slipper lapse of the tonge in soundynge togyther a meyny of woordes conteynynge in them diuerse consonantes of bylyke pronunciation) thys compacte of woordes & such other like. *Ther beanes in a bladder, rattle bladder rattle.* Also the *Bytons* (I meane them whom the vnlearned and the comynre sorte of people call still in the old Saxons terme *Walshmen*) of like regard haue ioyned togyther certain woordes for y same intente: whiche who so euer shall redde, roundely, and perfectlye sound: the same shall also pronounce moze easelye all other woordes: And ye shall take thys now for one harde sentence in *Walsh*, but to be spoken roundely: *Daan y bydd garw blayn blew hart gafy? am y bod yn por? byc hel yn garw gardd bardd baron. ac.* Here is another of that sorte but shorter: *Barkutan yn pigo pupur.* Another as harde. *Et Till at ben gallt y plidill.* These examples maye seme to some men not onely bulgare and chylidithe, but also hapne, vnfutefull, and no lesse folp he: and so be they in dede (and what is not so, beinge abused or mistraken) if they be not applyed to the directed scope and purposed intente. But now we who shall be so vnlucky as to leape ouer a blocke and stumble at a strawe: And who is he that shall distinctly pronounce in *Douch* *Widdschiltser*, but the same shall sone pronounce *Werdampfer*. What man is he that can sounde *Wynchester* Englyshelike, but

The Eng  
lish Sa  
xons cal  
led firste  
the Brit  
tous wal  
shmen.

**The pronuniation of the letters**

consequently speake haule or suche other syght woꝝde  
And so who is he that can speake thaboue wyghen  
walsh sentences and can mysse of the pronuniation of  
other woꝝdes of moare commune construction / And  
bycause (as I protested befoꝝ) I do not entend to en-  
courage you noꝝ anye man els, than is oner desierous  
to the studye of Bytthe (I meane the language that  
by continuall minomet the recoꝝder of the au:ciencie  
hostilitie is called **XX** althe) I wyll not once speake a  
a woꝝde in praise of it (thoughe and if I were learned  
I myght say some what to it) but willingly will pres-  
termit to set foꝝthe what select woꝝdes, what conso-  
nant and fine termes, and what sentencious and uret  
adages, whych the olde, sage, & learned fathers haue  
not only inuented, but also of the Grekes and the Las-  
tines moſte pꝛoſperouſlye haue taken, translated, ac-  
cepted, and vntill thys daye still retayned: I wyl omit  
to declare any whyle of the manifeste rhetorical pꝛa-  
ses, I wyl wylke at the tropes, metaphores, & trans-  
lations, and such maner of speeches whych the Byt-  
tthe tonge hath as commune, yea rather as peculiar  
or slyerlyke wyth the holy language.

Bytthe  
m: ma-  
med xal  
spe.

The Be-  
blue fōge

And as foꝝ to conferre the pronuniation of them  
both togyther I wyl nere:foꝝ, what stuld I make a  
remparison betwexte whyte, and euenlike whyte: or  
likken an egge, to an egge / And if I shoulde but once  
enter to treat of the vnspeakeable felicitie, and the wō-  
derous graces of the Bytthe meters (who his incor-  
pſcraible obseruatiue composition, no man but by the  
onely gift of nature hath euer attained) I shoulde ne-  
uer make an ende.

Like els  
in palle  
leafe

But nowe after thys, oh, howe it greaureth me to  
discōse

In the Britthe tongue.

disclose the unfayned truth, and to confesse the vnder  
 simulated heretic, that there remaineth now but walke  
 pamphlers for the goodly Britthe booke, sometyme  
 so well furnished wyth all kinde of literature: and so  
 fewe Britthe fragmentes of the booke of Christes  
 o wone religion remaine but woormeaten, and defended for it is  
 gospel be  
 byd, it is  
 bid among  
 the that  
 are lon.  
 from insurpe of tyme, and the booke of Howel da ap  
 Cadell so longe perserued salte and sounder. Yea, it is  
 rather to be lamented and greatly to be sorowd to se  
 howe fewe Walchemen haue the knoweledge of the  
 Englyshe tongue, whiche as by the next way mought  
 nowe restaurate for the our woorme baren Britthe, the  
 reliques of the noble Brittons to their euer affectio:  
 nate knowledge, and accustomed learnynge of good  
 letters, pietie, and godlines.

But nowe maister Collingborne, leaste peradurn:  
 ture, wher I thynke my selfe but familiarly to talke  
 here with you, and other my familiars (as my mea:  
 nyng is none other in dede) some thankeles taunter  
 entermeddle and say vnto me, alludynge to that mocke  
 of Diogenes. *Q uiri apud porras occidunt, ne quando  
 uerbs uestra egebitur.* meanyng thus thereby. *Q my*

good frende haue done wyth your Walthe sa:

bles haue done: for els your toly proemion

and your goodly partyon shalbe leas:

ger than al your boke betyde:

Here therfore at þ last

I make an

ende.

¶ ¶ ¶

