

## PRONUNCIATION

### AND

## PECULIARITIES OF DIALECT.

---

The reader should begin by mastering the pronunciation of the letters, which have not the exact equivalent English sound, as below :—

a, e, i, o, have the sound of *ah*, *ay*, *ee*, *oh*, and have a long and short sound. Double vowels have the long sound. Single vowels are LONG if the following consonant has another vowel after it, as *fader*, father; and SHORT, when not so followed, as *kin-  
ders*, children. When final, *a*, *e*, *i*, and *o* are LONG.

u, when LONG, sounds like French *u* in *lune* or German *ü* in *für*; when SHORT, sounds somewhat like the English short *u* in *but*.

y, or ei = English *a* in *late*.

ii (ie) = English *ee* in *thee*.

oe = English *oo* in *too*.

ui has no exact English sound.

g is always a guttural.

j = English *y* in *yield*.

s is equivalent to English *z*.

w = English *v*.

oei is equivalent to *ooy*.

The reader should now imprint on the memory the following peculiarities of the dialect.

There is only one definite article in the Taal—the word *di*, used for all nouns alike, singular and plural, as *di pad*, the road; *di rifir*, the river; *di bome*, the trees. The word *di* also means “this” or “that” when used before a noun.

The indefinite article is the word *een*, abbreviated to *'n*, as *'n pad*, *'n man*, *'n frou*, and when used in full, signifies the number one, as *een pad*, one road.

The verb *is* has the English signification, and is also used for the word “are.”

#### EXAMPLES.

<i>Di</i>	<i>pad</i>	<i>is</i>	<i>goed</i>
The	road	is	good
<i>Di</i>	<i>bome</i>	<i>is</i>	<i>mooi</i>
The	trees	are	pretty