The transcription is based on the IPA-table for English, with an exception for [e] and [ov] which I replaced by [ $\epsilon$ ] and [ $\epsilon$ v], respectively, as per the system used by the OED (  $\epsilon$ nd ed. 1989). From its introduction to the translation of the phonetic system: 'A notable example is the use of ( $\epsilon$ ) for the vowel of *bed* in place of the more usual (e), because the English vowel is, for most English ears, closer to the cardinal open vowel of French *faire* or German *Bär* than to the cardinal narrow vowel of French *bébé* or German *Schnee*.'. And: 'A distinction is drawn between a diphthong ( $\epsilon$ ) in words like *glory*, *boarder*, *mourning*, and a long vowel ( $\epsilon$ ) in words like *saurian*, *border*, and *morning*.'

The OED and other dictionaries I consulted do not make a distinction between the stressed [ɪ] and the unstressed longer and closer [i]: *city* is transcribed as ['sɪtɪ] in the OED and as ['sɪtɪ] in others. I opted for ['sɪtɪ], in which the final sound is more 'Continental', and more to the point, for that matter. To me, it is a closer and longer sound. My 'Shorter Oxford English Dictionary'(3rd rev. ed.1968) agrees with me ... The same holds good for *few* [fju:] and *curfew* ['kɜːfju].

For this revision I originally thought of transcribing everything in *connected speech*, but then I realized that this exercise is primarily meant for distinguishing between the various sounds and that the words should be pronounced as *standing alone*. It may also avoid confusion with [hip ænd haid], 'hear and heard' being reduced to ['hipre'naid] 'hear a nerd'... The whole thing would be rife with *linking r*'s, and *and*'s reduced to [n]'s. I could even find at least one instance of a possible *intrusive r* ([ai wil ti:tʃ juː-r-in mai vaːs]).

So, I will go for *staccato speech*: pronouncing each and every word one by one with its most common dictionary representation. To that end I opted for the transcription that comes first in the OED: [buːˈkeɪ], rather than ['buːkeɪ].

What became clear to me is that there is absolutely no universal method of transcribing RP with the present IPA system. It needs to be revised to such an extent that compilers of dictionaries would eventually be unanimous in their transcriptions.

Here we go (again...):

WillSnellen TheChaos.docx 1/8

Dearest creature in creation,

Studying English pronunciation.

I will teach you in my verse,

Sounds like corpse, corps, horse and worse.

It will keep you, Susy, busy,

Make your head with heat grow dizzy.

Tear in eye, your dress you'll tear,

Queer, fair seer, hear my prayer.

Pray, console your loving poet,

Make my coat look new, dear, sew it.

Just compare heart, hear and heard,

Dies and diet, lord and word,

Sword and sward, retain and Britain,

(Mind the latter how it's written).

Made has not the sound of bade,

Say-said, pay-paid, laid but plaid.

Now I surely will not plague you,

With such words as vague and ague.

But be careful how you speak.

Say: gush, bush, steak, streak, break, bleak,

Previous, precious, fuchsia, via,

Recipe, pipe, studding-sail, choir,

Woven, oven, how and low.

Script, receipt, shoe, poem, toe.

Say, expecting fraud and trickery,

Daughter, laughter and Terpsichore,

Branch, ranch, measles, topsails, aisles,

Missiles, similes, reviles,

Wholly, holly, signal, signing,

Same, examining, but mining.

Scholar, vicar, and cigar,

Solar, mica, war and far.

From desire: desirable-admirable from admire,

Lumber, plumber, bier, but brier,

Topsham, brougham, renown, but known,

Knowledge, done, lone, gone, none, tone,

One, anemone, Balmoral,

Kitchen, lichen, laundry, laurel.

Gertrude, German, wind and Wind,

Beau, kind, kindred, queue, mankind,

ˈdɪərɪst 'kriːtʃə ɪn kriː'eɪʃən

'stadiin 'inglif prəunansiz'eifən ai wil tixtf juz in mai vəzs

saundz laik koips koe hois ænd wais

ıt wıl kirp ju: 'surzi, 'bızi

meik joi had wið hilt grau 'dizi

tiə in ai joi dres juil teə

kwiə feə 'sizə hiə mai preə

prei kon'səul joz 'lavın 'pəuit

meik mai kəut luk njuz diə səu it

dζΛst kəm'pεə haɪt hɪə ænd hɜɪd

daiz ænd 'daiət loid ænd waid

soid ænd swoid ri'tein ænd 'britn

maınd ðə 'lætə hav its 'ritn

meid həz not ðə saund ov bæd

sei sed pei peid leid bat plæd

nav ar 'Svəli wrl not plerg jur

wið satf waidz əz veig ænd 'eigjui

bat biz 'keəful hau juz spizk

sei an bu steik strijk breik blijk

'priːvɪəs 'prɛ∫əs 'fjuː∫ə 'vaɪə

'resipi paip 'stansəl 'kwaiə

'wəuvən 'nvən hau ænd ləu

skript ri'siit ʃuː ˈpəʊim təʊ

sei ik'spektin froid ænd 'trikəri

'dɔːtə 'laːftə ænd tɜːp'sɪkəri

braintf raintf 'mizzlz 'topsə lz 'aılz

'misailz 'similiz ri'vailz

'həʊli 'hɒli 'sɪgnl 'saɪnɪŋ

seim ig'zæminin byt 'mainin

'skɒlə 'vɪkə ænd sı'gaː

'səʊlə 'maɪkə wɔː ænd faː

from dı'zaıə dı'zaırəbəl 'ædmırəbəl from æd'maıə

'lambə 'plamə biə bat 'braiə

'tɒpsəm ['tɒpfəm] 'bruɪm rɪ'naʊn bʌt nəʊn

'ทงโรปร dʌn ləʊn gɒn nʌn təʊn

wʌn ə'nɛməniː bæl'mɒrəl

'kıtfın 'laıkn 'lɔːndri 'lɒrəl

'gs:truid 'dzs:mən wind ænd waind

bəv kaınd 'kındrıd kjuz mænk'aınd

Tortoise, turquoise, chamois-leather,

Reading, Reading, heathen, heather.

This phonetic labyrinth

Gives moss, gross, brook, brooch, ninth, plinth.

Have you ever yet endeavoured

To pronounce revered and severed,

Demon, lemon, ghoul, foul, soul,

Peter, petrol and patrol?

Billet does not end like ballet:

Bouquet, wallet, mallet, chalet.

Blood and flood are not like food.

Nor is mould like should and would.

Banquet is not nearly parquet,

Which exactly rhymes with khaki.

Discount, viscount, load and broad,

Toward, to forward, to reward,

Ricocheted and crocheting, croquet?

Right! Your pronunciation's OK.

Rounded, wounded, grieve and sieve,

Friend and fiend, alive and live.

Is your R correct in higher?

Keats asserts it rhymes Thalia.

Hugh, but hug, and hood, but hoot,

Buoyant, minute, but Minute.

Say abscission with precision,

Now: position and transition;

Would it tally with my rhyme

If I mentioned paradigm?

Twopence, threepence, tease are easy,

But cease, crease, grease and greasy?

Cornice, nice, valise, revise,

Rabies, but lullabies.

Of such puzzling words as nauseous,

Rhyming well with cautious, tortious,

You'll envelop lists, I hope,

In a linen envelope.

Would you like some more? You'll have it!

Affidavit, David, davit.

To abjure, to perjure. Sheik

Does not sound like Czech but ache.

'tɔːtəs 'tɜːkwɔɪz 'ʃæmi ['ʃæmɔɪ] 'lɛðə

'rizdın 'redın 'hizðn 'heðə

ðis fəʊˈnɛtik 'læbirinθ

givz mps graus bruk braut nainθ plinθ

hæv juz 'evə jet en'devəd

tə prəu'nauns ri'vɪəd ænd 'sɛvəd

'dizmən 'lemən quzl favl səvl

'piːtə 'pɛtrəl ænd pə'trəʊl

'bılıt daz not end laık 'bælei

buz'keɪ ['buzkeɪ] 'wɒlɪt 'mælɪt 'ʃæleɪ

blad and flad as not lask fusd

noːrɪz məʊld laɪk ∫ʊd ænd wʊd

'bæŋkwɪt ɪz nɒt 'nɪəli 'paːki

witf ig'zæktli raimz wið 'kaiki

'dıskaunt 'vaıkaunt ləud ænd broıd

'tɔɪd tu: 'fɔɪwəd tu: rɪ'wɔɪd

'rıkəſeɪd ænd 'krəʊſeiɪŋ krəʊ'keɪ

raıt jɔː prəʊn∧nsiːˈeɪ∫ənz əʊ'keɪ

'raundid 'wuindid griiv ænd siv

frend ænd fiznd ə'lazv ænd lzv

ız jɔː[r] αː kə'rɛkt ın 'haɪə kiːts ə'sɜːts ıt raımz θə'laɪə

hjur bat hag ænd hod bat hurt

'bɔɪənt 'mɪnɪt bʌt mai'njuːt

sei æb'si[ən wið priˈsiʒən

nav pəˈziʃən ænd traɪnˈsiʒən

wud it 'tæli wið mai raim

ıf aı 'mεn∫n 'pærədaım

ii ai iiisiijii pæiauaiiii

'tʌpəns 'θrɪpəns tiːz aː 'iːzi

bat sizs krizs grizs ænd 'grizzi

'kɔːnɪs naɪs və'liːs rɪ'vaɪz

'reɪbiːz bʌt 'lʌləbaiz

əv s $\Lambda$ t 'p $\Lambda$ zlın w3zdz əz 'n $\Delta$ z $\delta$ s

'raımıŋ wɛl wɪð 'kɔːʃəs 'tɔːʃəs

juːl ɪnˈvɛləp lɪsts aɪ həʊp

ın ə 'lının 'εnvələυp

wod juː laɪk sʌm mɔə juːl hæv ɪt

æfi'deivit 'deivid 'dævit

tə æb'dzʊə tu: 'pɜːdʒə ʃeik

daz not saund laik tsek bat eik

Liberty, library, heave and heaven,

Rachel, loch, moustache, eleven.

We say hallowed, but allowed,

People, leopard, towed but vowed.

Mark the difference, moreover,

Between mover, plover, Dover.

Leeches, breeches, wise, precise,

Chalice, but police and lice,

Camel, constable, unstable,

Principle, disciple, label.

Petal, penal, and canal,

Wait, surmise, plait, promise, pal,

Suit, suite, ruin. Circuit, conduit

Rhyme with shirk it and beyond it,

But it is not hard to tell

Why it's pall, mall, but Pall Mall.

Muscle, muscular, gaol, iron,

Timber, climber, bullion, lion,

Worm and storm, chaise, chaos, chair,

Senator, spectator, mayor,

ıvy, privy, famous; clamour

Has the A of drachm and hammer.

Pussy, hussy and possess,

Desert, but desert, address.

Golf, wolf, countenance, lieutenants

Hoist in lieu of flags left pennants.

Courier, courtier, tomb, bomb, comb,

Cow, but Cowper, some and home.

Solder, soldier! Blood is thicker,

Quoth he, than liqueur or liquor,

Making, it is sad but true,

In bravado, much ado.

Stranger does not rhyme with anger,

Neither does devour with clangour.

Pilot, pivot, gaunt, but aunt,

Font, front, wont, want, grand and grant.

Arsenic, specific, scenic,

Relic, rhetoric, hygienic.

Gooseberry, goose, and close, but close,

Paradise, rise, rose, and dose.

'lıbəti 'laıbrəri hizv ænd 'hevən

rə'[ɛl lɒx mʊ'staː[ ɪ'lɛvən

wiz sei 'hæləud bat ə'laud

'pizpl 'lepad taud bot vaud

maːk ðə 'dɪfərəns mɔə'rəʊvə

bi'twiin 'muivə 'plavə 'dəuvə

'lixtfiz 'britfiz waiz pri'sais

'tfælis bat pa'lis ænd lais

'kæməl 'kʌnstəbəl ʌn'steɪbəl

'prinsipl di'saipəl 'leibəl

'pɛtl 'piːnəl ænd kə'næl

weit sə'maiz plæt 'promis pæl

sjurt swirt 'rurin 'sarkıt 'k∧ndit

raım wıð ∫3ːk it ænd bi'jønd it

but it iz not haid tu: tel

wai its poil moil but pel mel

'mʌsl 'mʌskjʊlə ʤeɪl 'aɪən

'tımbə 'klaımə 'bujən ['bulıən] 'laıən

wɜːm ænd stɔːm ∫eɪz 'keɪɒs tʃεə

'sɛnətə spɛk'teɪtə mɛə

'aıvi 'prıvi 'feıməs 'klæmə

həz ðə eɪ vv dræm ænd 'hæmə

'pʊsi 'hʌzi ænd pə'zɛs

dı'zıt bat 'dezət ə'dres

gplf wulf 'kauntinens lef'tenents

hoist in ljuz pv flægz left 'penants

'kurıə 'kəətiə tulm bom kəum

kau bat 'kuːpə sam ænd həum

'spldə ['səυdə] 'səυldʒə blʌd ız 'θıkə

kwəʊθ hiː ðæn li'kjʊə ɔ: 'lɪkə

'meikin it iz sæd bat tru:

ın brə'veidəʊ mʌtʃ ə'duː

'streɪnʤə dʌz nɒt raɪm wɪð 'æŋgə

'naiðə ['niːðə] dxz dr'vauə wið 'klængə

'pailət 'pivət goint bat aint

font frant wount wont grænd ænd graint

'azsnik spe'sifik 'siznik

'rɛlɪk 'rɛtərɪk haı'dʒiːnɪk

'gʊzbərɪ guːs ænd kləʊz bʌt kləʊs

'pærədais raiz rəuz ænd dəus

Say inveigh, neigh, but inveigle,

Make the latter rhyme with eagle.

Mind! Meandering but mean,

Valentine and magazine.

And I bet you, dear, a penny,

You say manifold like many,

Which is wrong. Say rapier, pier,

Tier (one who ties), but tier.

Arch, archangel; pray, does erring

Rhyme with herring or with stirring?

Prison, bison, treasure trove.

Treason, hover, cover, cove,

Perseverance, severance. Ribald

Rhymes (but piebald doesn't) with nibbled.

Phaeton, paean, gnat, ghat, gnaw,

Lien, psychic, shone, bone, pshaw.

Don't be down, my own, but rough it,

And distinguish Buffet, buffet;

Brood, stood, roof, rook, school, wool, boon,

Worcester, Boleyn, to impugn.

Say in sounds correct and sterling

Hearse, hear, hearken, year and yearling.

Evil, devil, mezzotint,

Mind the Z! (A gentle hint.)

Now you need not pay attention

To such sounds as I don't mention,

Sounds like pores, pause, pours and paws,

Rhyming with the pronoun yours;

Nor are proper names included,

Though I often heard, as you did,

Funny rhymes to unicorn,

Yes, you know them, Vaughan and Strachan.

No, my maiden, coy and comely,

I don't want to speak of Cholmondeley.

No. Yet Froude compared with proud

is no better than McLeod.

But mind trivial and vial,

Tripod, menial, denial,

Troll and trolley, realm and ream,

Schedule, mischief, schism, and scheme.

sei in'vei nei bat in'viigl

meik ða 'læta raim wið 'izgl

maind mix'ændərin bat mixn

'væləntaın ænd mægə'zi:n

nd ar bet jur drara 'peni

juz sez 'mænifəvld lazk 'meni

witf iz rpŋ sei 'reipiə piə

'taiə wan hu taiz bat tiə

aːtʃ 'aːk'eɪndʒəl preɪ dʌz 'ɜːrɪŋ

raim wið 'herin o: wið 'stairin

'prizn 'baisən 'trɛʃə trəʊv

ʻtriːzn ˈhɒvə ˈkʌvə kəʊv

ps:si'viərəns 'sevərəns 'ribəld

raımz bat 'paiboild 'daznt wið 'nibld

'feɪɪtn 'piːən næt gɔːt nɔː

'liːən 'saɪkɪk ʃɒn bəʊn ʃɔː

dəunt biz daun maı əun bat raf it

ænd dɪs'tɪŋgwɪ∫ 'bʊfei 'bʌfit

bruid stod ruif rok skuil wol buin

'wʊstə 'bʊlɪn tu: ɪm'pjuːn

sei in saundz kə'rekt ænd 'stailin

hais hiə 'haikn jiə ænd 'jailin

'izvl 'devl 'medzəutint

maınd ðə zed eı 'dzentl hınt

naʊ juː niːd nɒt peɪ ə'tɛn∫ən

tə satf saundz əz ai dəunt 'mensən

saundz laik poez poiz poez ænd poiz

'raımın wið ðə 'prəunaun jozz

noː aː 'prɒpə neɪmz ɪn'kluːdɪd

ðəv aı 'zıfən haıd əz jur dıd

'fʌni raɪmz tu: 'juɪnɪkɔɪn

jes jur nəv ðem vorn ænd strorn

nəʊ maɪ 'meɪdn kɔi ænd 'kʌmli

aı dəunt wont tu: spizk ov kəl'mʌndli

nəʊ jɛt fruːd kəm'pɛəd wɪð praʊd

ız nəʊ 'bɛtə ðæn mə'klaʊd

but 'triviəl ænd 'vaiəl

'traippd 'miiniəl di'naiəl

trəʊl ænd 'trɒli rɛlm ænd riːm

'sedzuzl 'mistsif sizəm ænd skizm

Argil, Gill, Argyll, gill. Surely

May be made to rhyme with Raleigh,

But you're not supposed to say

Piquet rhymes with sobriquet.

Had this invalid invalid

Worthless documents? How pallid,

How uncouth he, couchant, looked,

When for Portsmouth I had booked!

Zeus, Thebes, Thales, Aphrodite,

Paramour, enamoured, flighty,

Episodes, antipodes,

Acquiesce, and obsequies.

Please don't monkey with the geyser,

Don't peel taters with my razor,

Rather say in accents pure:

Nature, stature and mature.

Pious, impious, limb, climb, glumly,

Worsted, worsted, crumbly, dumbly,

Conquer, conquest, vase, phase, fan,

Wan, sedan and artisan.

The TH will surely trouble you

More than R, CH or W.

Say then these phonetic gems:

Thomas, thyme, Theresa, Thames.

Thompson, Chatham, Waltham, Streatham,

There are more but I forget them

Wait! I've got it: Anthony,

Lighten your anxiety.

The archaic word albeit

Does not rhyme with eight-you see it;

With and forthwith, one has voice,

One has not, you make your choice.

Shoes, goes, does. Now first say: finger;

Then say: singer, ginger, linger.

Real, zeal, mauve, gauze and gauge,

Marriage, foliage, mirage, age,

Hero, heron, query, very,

Parry, tarry, fury, bury,

Dost, lost, post, and doth, cloth, loth,

Job, Job, blossom, bosom, oath.

'aːdʒɪl dʒɪl aː'gaɪl gɪl ˈʃɔːli

mei biz meid tu: raim wið 'roilli

bnt jor not sə'pəuzd tu: ser

pı'ket raımz wið 'səubrikei

hæd ðis 'invəlid in'vælid

'wazθlis 'døkjumants hau 'pælid

hao λη'kuːθ hiː 'kaʊtʃənt lokt

wεn for 'poətsməθ ar hæd 'bukt

ziu:s θi:bz 'θeɪli:z æfrəʊ'daɪti

'pærəmυə ε'næməd 'flaɪti

'spisəudz æn'tipədizz

ækwiː'ɛs ænd 'pbsikwiːz

plizz dəʊnt 'mʌŋki wɪð ðə 'geizə

dəunt piːl 'teitəz wið mai 'reizə

'raːðə seɪ ɪn 'æksənts pjʊə

'neɪʧə 'stætjə ænd mə'tjʊə

'paɪəs 'ımpɪəs lım klaım 'glʌmli

'wustid 'waistid 'krambli damli

'knykə 'knykwest vazz feiz fæn

wpn si'dæn ænd aiti'zæn

ði 'tiː'eɪtʃ wɪl 'ʃʊəli 'trʌbəl juː

moə ðæn aː 'siː'eitʃ ɔ: 'dʌbljuː

seı ðɛn ðiːz fəʊˈnɛtik ʤɛmz

'tøməs taım tə'riːsə tɛmz

'tompsən 'tfætəm 'woltəm 'stretəm

ðεə aː mɔə bʌt aɪ fə'gɛt ðεm

weit aiv got it 'æntəni

'laɪtn jɔː æŋ'zaɪəti

ði aː'keɪɪk wɜːd ɔːl'biːɪt

daz not raim wið eit jur sir it

wið ænd foðθ'wiθ w∧n həz vois

wan haz not jur merk jor tsois

[uɪz gəʊz dʌz naʊ fɜɪst seɪ 'fɪŋgə

ðen sei 'sinə 'dzındzə 'lingə

'riːəl ziːl məʊv gɔːz ænd geɪdʒ

'mæridʒ 'fəʊliɪʤ mɪ'raːʒ eɪʤ

'hɪərəʊ 'hɛrən ˈkwɪəri 'vɛri

'pæri 'tæri 'fjʊəri 'bεri

dast lost paust ænd daθ kloθ lauθ

θυε mezud' mesald' dυεξα dagb

Faugh, oppugnant, keen oppugners,

Bowing, bowing, banjo-tuners

Holm you know, but noes, canoes,

Puisne, truism, Use, to use?

Though the difference seems little,

We say actual, but victual,

Seat, sweat, chaste, caste, Leigh, eight, height,

Put, nut, granite, and unite.

Reefer does not rhyme with deafer,

Feoffer does, and zephyr, heifer.

Dull, bull, Geoffrey, George, ate, late,

Hint, pint, senate, but sedate.

Gaelic, Arabic, pacific,

Science, conscience, scientific;

Tour, but our, dour, succour, four,

Gas, alas, and Arkansas.

Say manoeuvre, yacht and vomit,

Next omit, which differs from it

Bona fide, alibi

Gyrate, dowry and awry.

Sea, idea, guinea, area,

Psalm, Maria, but malaria.

Youth, south, southern, cleanse and clean,

Doctrine, turpentine, marine.

Compare alien with Italian,

Dandelion with battalion,

Rally with ally; yea, ye,

Eye, I, ay, aye, whey, key, quay!

Say aver, but ever, fever,

Neither, leisure, skein, receiver.

Never guess-it is not safe,

We say calves, valves, half, but Ralf.

Starry, granary, canary,

Crevice, but device, and evrie.

Face, but preface, then grimace,

Phlegm, phlegmatic, ass, glass, bass.

Bass, large, target, gin, give, verging,

Ought, oust, joust, and scour, but scourging;

Ear, but earn; and ere and tear

Do not rhyme with here but heir.

for ə'pʌgnənt kiɪn ə'pjuɪnəz

'bəvɪŋ 'baviŋ 'bændʒəv 'tjuɪnəz

həum jur nəu bat nəuz kən'urz

'pjuɪni 'truɪɪzəm juɪs tu: juɪz

ðəυ ðə 'dıfərəns siːmz 'lɪtl

wiz sei 'æktiuzəl bʌt 'vitl

sixt swet tferst karst lix ert hart

put nat 'grænit ænd jur'nait

riːfə dʌz nɒt raɪm wɪð dɛfə

'fɛfə dʌz ænd 'zɛfə 'hɛfə

או שטו 'לזנלדו לזבילק בד leit

hint paint 'senit bot si'deit

'geɪlɪk 'ærəbɪk pə'sɪfɪk

'saɪəns 'kɒn∫əns saɪənt'ıfık

tuə bʌt auə duə 'sʌkə fɔə

gæs ə'laɪs ænd 'aɪkənsɔɪ

seɪ mə'njuːvə jɒt ænd 'vɒmɪt

nekst əv'mit witf 'difəz from it

'bəʊnə 'faidi 'ælıbaı

'dzaiəreit 'dauri ænd ə'rai

siː aɪ'dɪə 'gɪni 'ɛərɪə

saım mə'riə bʌt mə'lɛəriə

juːθ saʊθ 'sʌðən klɛnz ænd kliːn

ʻdøktrin ʻtaipəntain mə'riin

kəm'psə 'eɪlɪən wɪð ı'tælɪən

'dnilarən wrð bə'tælrən

'ræli wɪð əˈlai jeɪ jiː

aī aī eī eī weī kiː kiː

seı ə'vaː bʌt 'ɛvə 'fiːvə

'naiðə 'lɛʒə skeɪn rı'siːvə

'nevə ges it iz not seif

wiz sei kazvz vælvz hazf bat reif

'staːri 'grænəri kə'nεəri

'krevis bat di'vais ænd 'eəri

feis bat 'prefis ðen gri'meis

flem fleg'mætik æs glais beis

bæs laæð 'taægit ðain giv 'vææðin

ort aust daust ænd skauð bat 'skardain

19 b∧t 3In ænd εθ ænd tεθ

duː nɒt raɪm wɪð hɪə bʌt εə

Mind the O of off and often

Which may be pronounced as orphan,

With the sound of saw and sauce;

Also soft, lost, cloth and cross.

Pudding, puddle, putting. Putting?

Yes: at golf it rhymes with shutting.

Respite, spite, consent, resent.

Liable, but Parliament.

Seven is right, but so is even,

Hyphen, roughen, nephew, Stephen,

Monkey, donkey, clerk and jerk,

Asp, grasp, wasp, demesne, cork, work.

A of valour, vapid vapour,

S of news (compare newspaper),

G of gibbet, gibbon, gist,

I of antichrist and grist,

Differ like diverse and divers,

Rivers, strivers, shivers, fivers.

Once, but nonce, toll, doll, but roll,

Polish, polish, Poll and poll.

Pronunciation, think of Psyche,

Is a paling, stout and spiky.

Won't it make you lose your wits

Writing groats and saying grits?

It's a dark abyss or tunnel

Strewn with stones like rowlock, gunwale,

Islington, and Isle of Wight,

Housewife, verdict and indict.

Don't you think so, reader, rather,

Saying lather, bather, father?

Finally, which rhymes with enough,

Though, through, bough, cough, hough, sough, tough?

Hiccough has the sound of sup.

My advice is: GIVE IT UP!

maind ða au nv nf ænd 'aifan

witf biz prəu'naunst əz 'zifən

wið ðə saund by soi ænd sois

'alsəu spft lpst klpθ ænd krais

'pudin 'pʌdl 'putin 'pʌtin

jεs æt gplf it raimz wið 'ſʌtiŋ

'respit spait kən'sent ri'zent

'laiəbəl bat 'pailimənt

'sevan iz rait but sau iz 'izvan

'haɪfən 'rʌfn 'nɛvjuː 'stiːvən

'mʌŋki 'dɒŋki klaːk ænd ʤɜːk

æsp grassp wøsp di'mein koik waik

ei pv 'vælə 'væpid 'veipə

εs υν njuːz kəm'pεə 'njuːspeɪpə

dziz vv 'dzībīt 'gībən dzīst

aı vv 'æntıkraıst ænd grist

'dıfə laık daı'v315 ænd 'daıvəz

'rıvəz 'straivəz 'ſıvəz 'faivəz

wʌns bʌt nɒns təʊl dɒl bʌt rəʊl

'pəʊlɪʃ 'pɒlɪʃ pɒl ænd pəʊl

prəʊnʌnsiːˈeɪʃən θɪŋk ɒv 'saɪki

ız ə 'peɪlɪŋ staʊt ænd 'spaɪki

waunt it meik jui luiz joi wits

'raitin grauts ænd 'seiin grits

its ə daik ə'bis o: 'tʌnl

struːn wið stəʊnz laik 'rɒlək 'gʌnl

'Izlintn ndail by wait

'hʌzif 'vɜːdɪkt ænd ɪn'daɪt

dəʊnt juː θɪŋk səʊ 'riːdə ˈraːðə

'seɪɪŋ 'læðə 'beɪðə 'fa:ðə

'faɪnəli wɪtʃ raɪmz wɪð ı'nʌf

ðəυ θruz bau kuf huk saf taf

'hiknp həz ðə saund by snp

mai əd'vais iz giv it np