

might as well never begin. There is nothing discouraging in this. It is only excellence that lives—mediocrity is but a shadow.

"If you would be thought a sage,
Think a volume, write a page;
And from every page of thine,
Publish but a single line."

In studying, don't undertake too many principles at once. Many beginners confuse themselves by practising the halving principle, word signs and grammalogues, before their memories are charged with the simple consonants in their proper positions. Don't be afraid of paper—above all, don't be afraid of practice. I found it a beneficial practice to follow all sorts of conversation with my finger on my knee, and to mentally translate difficult words. *Betenacious*. Stick to it through the long dog-days, as well as by the ingle when the storm king is vexed. The study won't bear an interregnum if you wish to come to the front.

I have noticed that three-fourths of those learning shorthand abandon it just when they

had almost scaled the hill of difficulty, and a little more steam put on would have landed them—a success. Many, however, commence the study that cannot possibly succeed. To ever become a reporter, you must have facility in writing long-hand—a free and rapid use of the pen. There is really but a poor prospect of a slow-writing adult ever becoming a successful phonographer. Indeed, were the art acquired as easily as some think, it would not be worth acquiring. Its very difficulty makes it valuable; and you may depend upon it, there is no better stepping-stone to the confidences and society of eminent men than a knowledge of phonography. The roll of fame is all the brighter for the many names of those plucky youths who, against great odds, persevered in reaching the highest positions in literature and politics.

It would, perhaps, interest the younger readers of your useful and interesting magazine to record the progress of some of these men in a future number.

Phonographic Gossip.

CANADA.

LOUIS A. GREATA, formerly of Seaforth, is now employed as stenographer for the L. & N. R. R. Co., at Louisville, Ky.

MR. GEORGE H. TAYLOR, of the *Chatham Planet*, has been appointed official stenographer to the Kent County Court.

MR. GEORGE MAINWARING, formerly of the *Hamilton Times* reportorial staff, has taken up his residence in this city.

MR. JOHN M. SWEENEY, of Hamilton, recently left that city for Chicago, where a good situation awaited him. He is a good stenographer.

MR. E. E. HORTON contributed an interesting article on "Some considerations in regard to reporting evidence in narrative form" for *Browne's Monthly* for March.

MR. JAMES CRANKSHAW, one of the *Hansard* reporters, lately passed a very creditable examination in the faculties of Law and Medicine at McGill University, Montreal.

MR. HORACE A. DAVENEY, shorthand writer for Ferguson, Bain, Gordon & Shepley, barristers, of this city, died a few weeks ago in the General Hospital from an affection of the heart.

MR. JOHN BRUCE, Munsonite, has a suite of rooms in the Court House in this city. He is special examiner for the Superior Courts, and will continue to take County Court examinations.

THE official reporters in the Commons will have to appear in black robes and white ties next session on the floor of the House. Court reporters have not yet donned the "inky cloak," but some of them wear the white tie.

MR. GIBSON's article on Individuality is full of ideas with which every experienced reporter will agree. He writes a beautiful longhand, judging from which we should think his reporting notes would be marvels of precision.

MR. WM. B. SULLIVAN, a graduate of Toronto University, who formerly practised law in this Dominion, and is now law stenographer in Chicago, Ill., has been chosen as President of the Canadian Club recently organized in that city.

CHIEF JUSTICE WILSON, in a charge of 10½ minutes' duration, spoke at the average rate of 145 words per minute. Mr. Justice Osler, in a fifteen minutes' charge, maintained an average rate of 166 words per minute. The charges were reported *verbatim* by Robt. Tyson and M. Fisk Johnston respectively. In each case the whole of the words were counted and then divided by the number of minutes.

UNITED STATES.

THE Tachygraphers claim that 2,800 write their system.

PHONOGRAPHY is taught in the public schools of Cairo, Ill.

THERE is an increasing demand for typewriters in the States.

BURGHAM YOUNG employed a professional reporter for many years.

PROFESSOR AGASSIZ said that phonography enabled him to do three years' work in one.

CHARLES A. SUMNER is the Supreme Court reporter for San Francisco. He writes Graham's system.