

ways have due consideration in connection with shorthand, of which it is the complement. There is scope for expansion here, and the Committee of the Congress will do wisely in making type-writing an important feature. Correct knowledge of manipulation, manifolding, and transferring to gelatine surfaces, is not as general as it should be, neither should it be relegated to the archives of "secret knowledge" any more than shorthand itself.

Still another point remains to be touched upon, viz., the relation of Phonetics to Phonography. Certainly Phonographers should take the lead in orthographical reform; and the dictum of a representative Congress would surely have considerable weight with the English-speaking people of this Continent. It is surely too much to ask that the work of that reform for which there is so great and urgent need be thrown upon a comparatively few persons, while the rank and file of our profession, which is more closely associated than any other with the press of the Continent, and with the fountains of language, should stand listlessly and helplessly by. Why should not a permanent committee be nominated, whose function it would be to co-operate with the American Philological Association in influencing press, pulpit and public in favor of the reform of our uncivilized, cumbrous, foggyish spelling?

Let the arguments here adduced in favor of the coming Congress be fairly weighed, and we are satisfied that no shorthand writer who can possibly manage to visit Cincinnati on August 31st, will be absent. On behalf of this fair Canadian Dominion, we promise to do our share to make it a success; and we trust that the Canadian Contingent who cross the lines will meet a large representation of kin-Kanucs who have won honor and fortune in competition with the American fraternity on their own ground.

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

A phonographer is a person who can read phonography and write it very slowly. A shorthand writer is a person who can write at a rate sufficient to take a position as amanuensis, but not fully fledged. A stenographer is a full-fledged professional reporter. We reserve all rights to the use of this newly-coined word, "Shorthand-er," and warn our American contemporaries not to use it without due credit in every case. That might be done by placing an asterisk or a dagger—preferably the latter—at the end of the word, and inserting a foot-note giving the name of the

inventor and the number of the patent—which may be quoted as 27,986.

The rooms which we leased upon taking the present premises in April last, although large and well-lighted, have proved too cramped for our needs, and we have secured a very comfortable suite of rooms adjoining, on the same floor. These comprise business office, manager's private room, tuition room, and type-writing room. The two latter can be thrown in one by means of folding doors, and will accommodate a hundred persons. We hope that the phonographic spirit who haunts these rooms may witness, during the coming winter, many pleasant social and fraternal gatherings, and may hear the hum of busy tutors and students, and the click and rattle of an array of type-writing machines.

Contrary to expectation, the Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association did actually nothing during the recent Parliamentary session at Ottawa in the way of revising the tariff, re-electing officers, or resuscitating the life of the association. The gentlemen of the press floated a colonization scheme and captured part of the Saskatchewan Valley, and the bonanza was so big that for the nonce they lost interest in the old association, and it was impossible to muster a quorum. We regret this very much, for the present tariff is practically unworkable, and there is more need than ever for a vigorous association of professional stenographers in this country. Since the last regular meeting of the association, some years ago, there has been a considerable development of stenographers, more or less competent, and these should be classified in some way. The profession may not be seriously injured by the introduction of this new element, and we think it will not. But there is a difference of opinion as to what constitutes a professional stenographer, and whether free license should be granted to all, irrespective of any test. For the purpose of applying such test, and regulating the profession, as well as raising its standing and defending its interests, we wish that the gentlemen at Ottawa had met and reorganized. It is not too late now, and we hope some steps will be taken during the summer. There is no reason why Canadians should not have a professional association as vigorous as those of our friends across the line.

Will the shorthand profession be overdone? This is a question which is often raised in the United States, and since the recent change in our Bureau the question has been frequently put us. We always unhesitatingly answer, no; and we have the most solid facts and reasons for our opinion. We find a growing desire on the part of merchants and business men to facilitate transactions in their establishments, and they have learned that the most useful auxiliary in this direction is a competent shorthand writer.