

spare time—such as the call of friends, extra meetings, letter-writing, etc.—such students will not be able to give more than from three to eight hours per week to the study. However, so far as our observation extends, those who give five or six hours close attention per week, generally succeed in being able to follow a slow speaker in one year. Of course thick-skulled people will have to allow themselves a little more time than that, while persons of a studious turn of mind and of quick perceptions will come off with considerably less. A youth of good abilities, and accustomed to studying six hours a day, may acquire the same proficiency in two months or less, by giving five or six hours a day to the task.

In most cases, the assistance of a teacher would lessen the time required to become a good shorthand writer about from twenty to thirty per cent, while there are people, occasionally to be met with, who can scarcely do more than acquire the alphabet, without the assistance of a tutor. For our own part, we do not remember to have experienced the least difficulty in mastering the art. We commenced to learn it from a couple of old books, some time out of date, published by Andrews & Boyle. Having got nearly through them, we found our-self still unable to read the "Universal Phonographer"—a monthly magazine then published by Messrs Fowler & Wells, a copy of which strayed into the printing office where I worked as an apprentice. I therefore sent for the "Phonographic Teacher," by D. Webster, New York, and studied it through, but found that even then I was not entirely posted up. My love of the new and beautiful art still grew, notwithstanding failures, and I procured Benn Pitman's Manual of Phonography. After reading this through I found myself capable of reading any and all the monthly phonographic magazines of the day, and took great delight in doing so. The amount of time devoted to the study could not have averaged more than three or four hours per week, yet we remember following a slow speaker in about a year from first seeing the alphabet. A failure of health necessitated a suspension of study—our much-esteemed phonography included—for several months, and it was not until three and a-half years from commencing the art that we dared attach "Phonographic Reporter" to our card, and enter upon the duties pertaining to a member of that distinguished profession.

Acquiring the ability of expressing our thoughts on paper at talking ease, seems, on looking back, to have cost very little. During much of the time occupied in mastering the art, we performed our ten hours of labor per day at the type-case, and did "chores" besides. We had no other assistance than the instruction books, and the first proof that any body else in the world, except the publishers of the books, understood the magical system of writing, was conveyed to us in a phonographic letter from a person to whom we had addressed a letter in that style of writing at random. Since then we have lived to learn that phonetic shorthand writers are numbered by hundreds of thousands, and that they embrace in their ranks a large portion of the intelligence of the civilized world.

HOW TO BEGIN.—In answer to several inquiries we would say: Having provided yourself with the Manual and Copy-book, and a good pencil (the "phonographic pencil" is the best and cheapest—sent by us, post-paid, for 15 cts.) the first thing to be done is to commence at the Preface of the Manual and read on till you come to the 24th page. Pause at the 24th and 25th pages until you commit the former to memory and perfectly understand the directions contained in the latter. Then read page 26, and write the exercises on page 27 in your copy-book, being careful to make all the characters between the small lines of the copy-book. Then

proceed to read page 28, glancing at and studying the opposite page when directed to do so, and afterwards copying the characters into your writ^g book. When you have studied page 31, then turn to the latter portion of the Manual, where you will find Writing Exercises, which copy into your book in phonography, as far as you have learned how to do it, and afterwards, as you study and copy each page of the Manual, turn to this portion of the book and copy the corresponding Writing Exercise.—The pencil is the more convenient article to copy with, but you should not neglect to use the pen also, occasionally. Do not waste your time and run the risk of being discouraged by commencing—as all conceited people do—at the end of the book, attempting to "puzzle out" sentences. Do not attempt to write sentences or your own name, until you have acquired the ability to do so by mastering the elements of the system. Commence the study with the determination to succeed, follow the directions of the Manual, and by practice and perseverance you will soon find yourself beyond the temporary trial incident to beginners, and thence sail smoothly and delightfully along until the formerly tedious task of committing thought to paper is performed at breathing ease.

HOLDING THE PEN.—Our correspondents sometimes inquire how we hold the pen or pencil in writing phonography. In reply, we would say, we hold them, generally, in the ordinary manner—between the thumb and the two first fingers.—Sometimes, when writing for several hours together, we change to the method recommended in the *Reporters' Companion*, viz: holding it between the first and second finger and steadying it with the end of the thumb. Strictly speaking, we believe the latter to be the best plan, but we can write either way with equal facility.

Phonographic Lessons.

A friend suggests us the idea of giving each month, in the "Pioneer," translations of the Lessons in the Manual. We will give a few in this number, and would like to have students of Phonography tell us how they like the plan. This key must not, of course, be used, until the student has tried to decipher the phonographic characters first. After reading over the phonography, the student should take his copy-book and write over this key, to the best of his ability, without looking at the Manual. When the exercise is finished he will then, by comparison, be able to see how correctly he is able to write, and in what respects he needs to improve his execution. All letters placed together, will be found connected in the Manual.

PAGE 29.—Line 1.—tk kt tm mt nt nk kp. Line 2.—mk nk mn nm nn m.n.km. 3rd.—chn nch chm mch chk keh chp pcb. 4th.—pt bt tp dp it vt ft tr. 5th.—lt tl pl fl il lk. 6th and 7th. pl fl vl k' nl ml lm lng. 8th.—shn ush tsh. 9th. ln n' nv vn sm mf rk rm. 10th.—tml ml tln lnt ntl ltn lt ln.

PAGE 30.—Line 1.—ts st stk tks kts tms mts nts. 2nd.—ms ns mns msm nsn msk lsm lsn. 3rd.—smns smns msnsm smng mnmn mnsng. 4th.—tsk kst mst tsm nst tsm.spk pks. 5th.—psm psn fsn fsk ksp ksl lsn lng. 6th.—pst tpt tft fct chst chp psch tsch. 7th.—pr pt rt rk rch rch. 8th.—tmt mrt ntr ntr krt trk tra. 9th.—rsp psr rsk rsn nstr kstm' prsn. 10th.—tsmr msrt sntr rts mrsn mrsn smrt. 11th.—mt kt pr it ft chr. 12th.—mch keh pcb fch tch sch.

Rev. C. J. Bowdish, of Kirksville, N. Y., says, "I am teaching Phonography to as many as I can get to learn it, for nothing, so that I am awakening an interest in this matter. I commenced the study of phonography about a year ago, and can now write from 90 to 120 words per minute."

Terms to Teachers.

Teachers of classes in Phonography, Teachers of Schools, and those who require a quantity of Instruction Books will be supplied on the following terms, the cash, in all cases, to accompany the order, namely.

For Five Dollars, a package of half a dozen Manuals and Copybooks will be sent to any part of the Province, Express carriage paid in advance. For Nine Dollars, Twelve sets, pre-paid. For Sixteen Dollars, Twenty-four sets, pre-paid.

CORRESPONDENCE.—We shall at all times be happy to hear from the friends of the Spelling Reform—especially if they write Phonography—and, when time will permit, will correspond with them in return. When communications, however, are not in the way of business, or when they contain writing exercises for correction, they must, to secure a reply, be accompanied by the small sum of TEN CENTS, and postage paid. Almost all phonographic teachers charge 50 cents per leaf, for correcting exercises. Specimens of writing, for correction, should be written on alternate lines.

REGISTER LETTERS.—When remitting money by mail, give the postmaster a penny extra and request him to "register" your letter. It does not cost much, and generally insures the safe delivery of the letter.

WRITE PLAINLY.—In ordering books, or sending subscriptions to the PIONEER, write names and addresses plainly, being careful to give the name of the post office, and that of the County in which it is situated, and "C. W." or "U. E." as the case may be.

O. B. Foster, of Smiths Falls, O. W., writes to the Phonographic Magazine that Phonography is now a regular branch of study in the schools of that place, 20 minutes being devoted to it each day.

PHONOGRAPHY FOR BUSINESS MEN

The correspondence of this office occupies, on an average, two hours per day; yet, as it is almost all entered in Phonography, there is more written in this time than a clerk who used the ordinary long-hand would write in a who e day.—BENN PITMAN, [Phonographic Institute, Chi.]

It is suitable for accounts and for book-keeping for two reasons—first, because it can be much more rapidly written than long-hand, secondly, it is legible and can be easily read, and is admirably adapted to all the purposes of correspondence.—Geo. H. EARLE, [Attorney at Law, Philadelphia.]

The art furnishes a brief, ready, and legible means of taking notes and memoranda, making extracts from books, reporting, and thus securing all that is valuable in sermons, lectures, public meetings, etc. and for correspondence with others who may be acquainted with the art.—[Register, Phila., Penn.]

A great portion of time since its introduction here, I have had one person as a phonographic amanuensis; and at some periods two at the same time.

The head of a mercantile establishment would very easily fall into the habit of dictating to his amanuensis, as quickly as he can speak, and so employ as many persons as the extent of his business would require; having at the same time, if needful, one or more writing out the notes in long-hand for perusal and signature.—F. W. PORTER, [Cor. Sec. Sunday School Union.]

THE MANUAL OF PHONOGRAPHY is the book from which to acquire the principles and practice of Phonography.—By it alone, any school-boy or girl of ordinary ability may learn, in two or three months, to take down sermons, lectures, etc., and correspond with their friends nearly as readily as they could talk to each other if they were together. For the mere cost of 75 cts or a dollar, and a few days study, no young man or woman ought to rest contented until they acquire such a labor-saving accomplishment as Phonography.

The MANUAL and COPY-BOOK are both sent to any part of the Province, free of postage, on receipt of One Dollar Address WILLIAM H. ORR "Pioneer" Office, OSUAWA, G. W.