

For the Phonetic Pioneer.

"I have written all the exercises in Pitman's Manual of Phonography, and can read the most of them as readily as I can our common long-hand. What little I know of the art affords me much pleasure, and I ardently desire to obtain a complete knowledge of a system which I deem so useful and important to the world. I only regret that I did not become acquainted with it sooner. Had this been the case, I might by its aid have acquired greater proficiency in other branches of education, and have done a great deal more good in my sphere of usefulness. I cheerfully recommend it to the favorable notice of all, and particularly the young. All should immediately avail themselves of the facilities offered, and endeavor without delay to know at least something of one of the greatest inventions of the age."

JOHN EARL,

Minister in the Canada Christian Conference. Townsend, C.W., 5th July, 1859.

THE PHONOTYPIC ALPHABET.

VOWELS.

E e	Æ æ	Œ œ	O o	Q q	W w
æ l,	a e,	a r m,	a l l	o d e,	o o z e ;
	æ æ	(a		E e	
	u r,	a s k,		æ r t h ;	
I i	E e	Æ æ	O o	U u	W w
æ,	æ l l,	a m,	o n	u p	f o o t ;

DIPHTHONGS.

F f	Ø ø	Y y	U u
b y,	b o y,	h o w,	n e w ;

CONSONANTS.

P p, B b, T t, D d, C c, G g, J j, K k, G g, p p, b b, t t, d d, c c, g g, j j, k k, G g, F f, V v, R r, H h, S s, Z z, X x, K k, f f, e e, v v, l a t h, l a t h e, c e a s e, s e i z e, a z e, a z u r e, I i, R r, M m, N n, U u, Y y, W w, H h, æ æ, r a r e, m a i n, n u n, s i n g, y o u, w a y, l a y.

A Lesson in Pronunciation.

Who that reads the war news pronounces the names of persons and places with any certainty of correctness, or with any satisfaction to himself? Who dares to read it aloud, and who that does it, gives every syllable a clear, distinct and decided sound? Do not almost all persons slide and stumble over them, somewhat as a "log sled" jumps and thumps over the stumps and rough places in the road? For the benefit of such persons, we give a few of the most frequently recurring names, with their correct pronunciation indicated in phonetic print. By a reference to the Phonotypic Alphabet, the correct sound of each letter may be learned.

- Breguardo—Bragwqrdo, vilaj ov Lombardi.
- Brescia—Bresja, siti ov ditò.
- Buffalora—Bofqlora, a siti on de Tegeno.
- Canrobert—Kanrobqr, a Freng Jeneral.
- Castiglano—Kastelyana, tsn ov Lombardi.
- Cassala—Kasla, fortifid tsn ov Itali.
- Cherbourg—Zarbr, fortifid Freng harbor.
- Chieso—Keasa, a river in Northern Itali.
- Garibaldi—Garebalde, an Italian Jeneral.

- Guidizzolo—Gweditsolo, tsn ov Ostriar Itali.
 - Gulai—Joli, an Ostriar Ksnt and Jeneral.
 - Lago Maggiore—Lago Magjora, a lak.
 - Magenta—Magenta, tsn ov Ostriar Itali.
 - Mazzini—Matzene, a politjan ov Itali.
 - Mincio—Mengo, a river in Itali.
 - Mont Cenis—Mon Sene, sumit ov Alps.
 - Montechiaro—Montaqro, a tsn ov Itali.
 - Novara—Novraq, siti ov Lombardi.
 - Peschiera—Peskearq, fortifid tsn in Lombardi.
 - Romagnano—Romagnano, tsn in Pedmont.
 - Solferino—Solfareno, vilaj in Ostriar Itali.
 - Schliek—Etek, an Ostriar Jeneral.
 - Siecle—Seakl, a nuzpaper in Paris.
 - Sesia—Sasqa, a river in Pedmont.
 - San Giorgio—San Jorjo, a tsn in Nor. Itali.
 - Susa—Susq, a tsn ov Pedmont.
 - Ticino—Tegeno, a river in Pedmont.
 - Vercelli—Vercele, a siti ov Pedmont.
 - Vallegio—Valajo, a vilaj ov Ostriar Itali.
 - Vigevano—Vejavano, a tsn ov Sardinia.
 - Voghera—Vogaraq, a tsn ov Pedmont.
- Zouaves—Zuqvz, Æ æ nam ov an aktiv bodi ov soljerz in de Freng servis, original Arabz but us Frengmen ho var de Arab dres. Æ æ Zuqvz qr distingvist from uder Freng traps bj dar dres, hwig iz sunhwot oriental in stil, konsistiv ov blij tyniks, de los pantalonz tukht in bj gaterz, and Æ æ Turkij fez or skull-kap. Æ æ dfer also in dar militari qrt yuziv de baonet olmost eksklusivli, and trusiv tu dar jinnastik ajiliti rader dan tu dar skil in de us ov firqrms. Æ æ ar regularli trand in jinnastik eksersjzez; and hwot givz dem dar sukses agenst hevi qrmid traps iz de swiftnes wid hwig da wil skal wolz, lep digez and baonet gunerz at dar postes even befor da hav had tjm tu lod dar qrz a sekond tjm.

THE CANADIAN PHONETIC PIONEER. W. H. Orr, Oshawa, C.W. 25c. a year.

The issue for June of this little monthly sheet has come to hand. We have before praised this publication, and on the receipt of this number—the twelfth, completing the first volume—we may again be allowed to direct attention to the magazine and its objects. Its comprehensive title indicates its purpose—viz, that it is "devoted to the spread of the writing, spelling and printing reform" in Canada; and certainly, during the past twelve months the important aim of the "Pioneer" has not been overlooked. We desire especially to notice the fact that a national association has been constituted under the name of "The British American Association," having for its object the union and co-operation of the friends of the phonetic reform, the encouragement and spread of phonetic writing and printing, and the circulation of phonetic and phonographic publications throughout British North America. Members of this association gratuitously correct the exercises of learners and give information respecting the phonographic art. Similar societies exist in England and in the United States, and as their purposes are disinterested and beneficial they deserve favor at the hands of every journalist. Phonographers wishing to become members may do so by addressing the secretary, Mr. Augustus Webber, Toronto, stating occupation or profession. No entrance fee or subscription is required. Voluntary donations, devoted solely to the printing of the annual report, are received, and memberships are renewed annually. This association was established March 24th, 1859, and full information respecting its constitution and objects may be found in the "Phonetic Pioneer." —Kingston Whig.

Phonography.

SPEECH AND WRITING are the grand mediums for the interchange of thought and affection, and thus for carrying on the necessary intercourse of life. Between these two methods of communication, there has always existed great disparity in point of facility and dispatch. To speak, is an exercise comparatively rapid, easy and delightful; to write, is felt by all to be tedious, cumbrous and wearisome, in an extreme degree. Is this disparity necessary? or, does it result from the imperfection of our system of writing? The hand is as skilfully organised for the rapid execution of written characters as are the larynx, mouth, tongue and lips, for the ready articulation of spoken sounds. It is an interesting and important inquiry,—Why are not the signs employed in writing, as simple as the sounds they represent?

Within the last hundred years, travelling has been expedited to seven times the former rate of speed; within the last sixteen years, the epistolary correspondence of this country has increased five-fold, by the introduction of cheap, but remunerative, postal communication; and, by means of the electric telegraph, intelligence can now be conveyed to any distance in a few seconds. Similar improvements and facilities distinguish the present from all former times, in almost every department of social and commercial life; and yet we continue to use the mode of WRITING which has been handed down to us from the remotest antiquity, (with but very slight changes in the forms of the letters,)—a mode which, by its complexity, obliges the readiest hand to spend at least six hours in writing what can be spoken in one! Is this right, fit or necessary? The genius of the ago answers, "No."

It is, however, in accordance with the law of human life and progress, that that which is defective and erroneous should be remodeled, and rendered conformable to reason and truth; and that that which is difficult should be made easy. In this ago of intellectual and business activity, the want of an expeditious method of writing is universally felt. "Who that is much in the habit of writing," asks the *English Review*, "has not often wished for some means of expressing by two or three dashes of the pen, that which, as things are, it requires such an expenditure of time and labor to commit to paper? Our present mode of communication must be felt to be cumbrous in the last degree, unworthy of these days of invention; we require some means of bringing the operations of the mind, and of the hand, into closer correspondence."

SHORTHAND.—Systems of Shorthand based upon the common alphabet, though considerably briefer than ordinary writing, are altogether incapable of supplying its place in the common business of life. On this point no more conclusive evidence can be necessary than is afforded by the fact that, notwithstanding the art of Stenography has been employed in this country for nearly three centuries, few, except professional reporters, make a practical use of it. The illegibility of Shorthand is proverbial, and the public have wisely refused to trust the records of their thoughts and deeds to its faithless keeping.

PHONOGRAPHY.—The desideratum of a brief method of writing, briefer than the briefest.