

that section of the copyright act, which is intended to protect Mr. Graham and other inventors from the raids of literary thieves, he has managed to make loopholes through which he has been gradually crawling, bringing with him the ideas of the inventor of Standard Phonography, which he has coated with law-proof varnish, only to be hurled into the midst of his followers, to whose ignorance he has trusted in screening the appropriation from detection. But, alas, we find that the struggles of the veteran publisher of shorthand, to rally his system, have resulted in placing it in a condition so critical that the text-books of that once predominant system of phonography, must now be laid away only to be looked upon in remembrance of Isaac Pitman, whom we must all acknowledge was one of those who gave the wheels of phonography their first turn.

All that I intend to say in this letter, regarding Standard Phonography, is that I would now refer you to the comparison plate. Isaac Pitman's phonography is precisely as given by him, and the Standard Phonography is precisely as the standard-phonographic outlines and principles of phrase-writing would require.

The result of the comparison, which is also given in that space at the bottom of the plate, allowed Standard Phonography, by Pitman's system, is as follows:

Pitman's=445 strokes, plus 300; liftings=745 movements of the pen.

Graham's=295 strokes, plus 202; liftings=497 movements of the pen.

That is: Pitman's present Phonography is fifty per cent—one-half—longer than Standard Phonography.

Years ago Isaac Pitman claimed for his system a noticeable superiority to Davidson's shorthand, because, as shown by such a comparison as this, his then Phonography was six per cent. faster than Davidson's. And that really was, in shorthand writing, as in money, an important gain—enough to make the difference between fully reporting and not accurately reporting many a speaker—enough to make the difference of reporting with difficulty, or with ease, many other speakers. But what shall we say of a difference between two systems more than five times as great!

Isaac Pitman's present Phonography requires 150 strokes and liftings, where Standard Phonography requires but 100. T. W. B.

ST. JOHN, N. B., Sept. 24.

The editor's is a most fascinating employment, does not require any previous education or preparation, and pays enormously. The principal occupation of leading editors is to receive enormous bribes for leading articles; to attend theatres, concerts and other places of public resort, occupying the best places, of course, and to inform political leaders how they should regulate affairs. Assistant editors and reporters, who are scarce at \$365 a week, generally work four hours a day when they are not away on vacations, have free passes everywhere and the pleasure of their company is courted by the *élite* of the city.—*Boston Bulletin*.

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