

Adventure of an "Official" in the Wilds of Phonography.

Continued.

The breeze was changed. Yielding to the soothing influence of a new-born thought, the quill-driver's effervescence suddenly subsided into one of the calmest of calms. This sterling idea which he so timely conceived suggested the advisability of confining his shorthand report to a skeleton article, or mere sketch, and recommended the practicability of supplying the missing links when making a transcription of his notes at home, where he might avail himself of all the heavenly comforts which invariably surround those exalted beings who breathe the ethereal atmosphere which escapes from the outer world to seek the protection offered by the chairless chambers on the top flat of an eighteen story boarding-house, and where, too, he would be likely to enjoy an exemption from anything calculated to disturb the stillness of the starry night, save, perhaps, the merry music flowing from the swelling throats of a little band of feline warblers that periodically held forth upon the canopy of a neighboring woodshed for the purpose of displaying their vocal agility and pugilistic ability in the presence of a very fashionable audience, composed of that fair-haired old gentleman, who, notwithstanding his dyspeptic complexion, faulty figure, and penniless pockets, manages to move in a very high circle indeed. We mean that very popular personage who occupies the front room in the moon, and who amuses himself during nocturnal seasons by looking out of the window and witnessing the performances of the many tom-cat variety troupes who usually offer a first-class show for a remarkably moderate admission fee. The happy idea which invited Mr. Steno. to try this easy-going way of "taking down" a witness apparently met his approval, for collaring it by the coat tail, he lost no time in towing the thing ashore, and immediately proceeded to put his newly invented phonogalleviator into operation.

To say that it worked like a charm would convey nothing more than a very faithful idea of its merits. The words, Oh joy! Oh rapture! unforeseen, seemed to be playing on the smiling lips of the subject of our sketch, ready to hop off at a moment's notice; and no doubt they would have performed that little feat had everything proved so propitious as the prospects had prefiguratively promised. But fortune did not

feel like favoring the phonographic official, for many minutes had not emigrated into the past, when a dark-complexioned cloud rolled over and roosted on his prominent proboscis. This change was the production of a dispute that sprouted up between the learned lawyers about the nature of the witness' answer to a certain question, in the early part of the direct examination, which, of course, could only be adjusted by referring to the notes of the shorthand man.

To be continued.

How Phonography Pays.

The following clipping will serve to convey to those who have neglected to join our little shorthand band a faint idea of the amount of dollars and cents that is yearly salted down by the honorable members of our noble profession:

"On April 12th, John H. Kerrison, phonographer, entered an action in the Superior Court, Montreal, against Lous Allard, contractor, for \$2000 damages. This proceeding is the outcome of the disgraceful scene in the Board of Chairmen, as reported in our Saturday's issue, when Alderman Allard exhausted his Billingsgate on Mr. Kerrison, who reported the Council committee meetings for the *Herald*."

This case should have been entered as shorthand vs. long tongue.

The current number of the *Student's Journal* is heavily freighted with valuable articles which studious young men could not very well afford to lose. This excellent monthly is from the publishing house of Andrew J. Graham, New York, and is devoted to Phonography, Music, Hygiene, Philology, Bibliography, etc. The number on our table contains some advance pages of the Standard Phonographic edition of the New Testament. The characters, which are beautifully printed, are produced by Mr. Graham's Stereography.

The obituary of a phonographic monthly which appeared in our last issue was somewhat premature. We are glad to say that the magazine has not yet kicked the bucket, and that there are some signs of its recovery, for we have since received two numbers of it.

James E. Munson intends to visit Canada this summer. Should he favor us with a call we will take pleasure in showing him all around the *Miscellany* headquarters for eight cents.