

It is obvious then that the oblique writer will require five minutes where the Vertical writer needs only three minutes and so on to hours, days and weeks—other things of course being equal.

On the Continent this question has been thoroughly thrashed out and tested by all sorts of experiments with the practical outcome that Vertical writers only a few months old in the System not merely hold their own but actually leave their sloping friends in the rear. Our own theoretical declarations that were challenged many years ago and our own experience over more than a quarter of a century are thus conclusively substantiated.

Several well known Educationalists and Medical Specialists have placed their experiments and results on record in multifarious letters, essays and articles, the general finding being that comparative novices in Upright Calligraphy will finish a piece of transcription in thirty minutes that the best sloping writers cannot accomplish in less than 40 minutes. One may well ask if such a victory be achieved by neophytes what will be the nature of the triumph when veterans in Upright Penmanship take part in the competition?

Employers of clerks must if they study their own interests seek to obtain Vertical writers and they may then rest assured the work will not only be better done but more quickly done also.

Incidentally we may refer at this stage to another feature that has repeatedly commended itself to our notice and approval and it is the unusual or exceptional neatness of Vertical writers as compared with Oblique.

Slope induces scrawl and scribble begets slovenliness. Not that all slopes are untidy, far from it, but the slanting writing does seem to contain within itself the very elements of care-

lessness and disorder, and undoubtedly the whole tendency of "Scrawl or Slope" is demoralizing or downwards.

Whatever force there may be in this argument the fact remains that of the very many slanting writers known to the Author a very large number of the most inveterate slopers are amongst the most careless in their office habits; whilst on the other hand the whole influence of verticality seems to produce what we almost invariably see, viz a remarkable absence of everything slovenly or disorderly.

Time will determine the amount of educative virtue there is in the System of Upright Penmanship and the extent to which these observations or arguments apply, but it is notorious as a fact of past history—which every student can verify—that the introduction of Slope and the origin of Scribble were coincident, and it is no less an Historical fact of the present that on the Continent all Sloping writing has been prohibited in many districts, whilst in Belgium and Germany the Slope or Slant has been limited to 10° and 20° from the Vertical respectively, so deeply are the evils of oblique writing felt in those Countries.

Some remarks in the *Lancet* a little time ago were very interesting inasmuch as they referred to another *unique* advantage of the Vertical system and that is its capability of being written with either hand equally well.

Just recently, I have received some beautiful specimens of left hand upright writing and it is well known that whilst the great Admiral Nelson wrote a very scrawly and sloping style with his right hand—the result of years of teaching at school—he afterwards wrote a beautifully bold, legible and superior Vertical style with his left hand shortly after the accident which deprived him of his right arm—and this he it remarked without a teacher, thus confirming our oft re-