

MONTREAL'S LEADING COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

The following are some of the features of the Metropolitan Shorthand School and Business College, 2265 St. Catherine St.:—

Individual, thorough and reliable instruction.

Separate Ladies' Department.

Day and Evening Sessions.

Goltman's Method of Instruction.

Moderate Tuition Charges.

Short, Thorough, Practical Courses.

Teachers who teach and do not merely hear recitations.

Book-keeping and Office practice from the start.

Instruction in Shorthand and Typewriting, which includes the acquirement of high speed and accuracy.

Lessons in Shorthand, etc., by mail for the benefit of those who reside out of the city, and are unable to attend the School. (This system of Postal Lessons is meeting with great success.)

Every exercise corrected and explained.

Over 100 students joined since September, 1897. (A complete list of names appeared in last month's issue.)

French Conversation.

Grammar, Spelling, Composition and Punctuation.

Speed Classes in Shorthand and Typewriting.

Graduates assisted to positions by the EMPLOYMENT BUREAU.

Students can enter at any time, and term begins only from date of entrance.

Only practical work is given students to qualify them for office work or otherwise.

Oral examinations, to test progress of the student.

The School is open five days and three evenings a week.

Qualified teachers, including the Principal, who is an Official Stenographer. (Students, therefore, receive a thorough knowledge of shorthand and typewriting in the shortest time, being taught by experts and practical persons.)

Continual dictation day and evening.

A MATTER OF FACT.

From The Yonkers Statesman.

Yeast—Did you say your wife could talk 250 words a minute?

Crimsonbeak—No; what I said was that she does.

SPECIAL MARKET REPORTS.

Coffee "weak." Onions "strong." Molasses "slow." Eggs "dropped." Hops "fairly active." Cheese "much animated." "Rapid rise" in baking powders. Breadstuffs "fell two points." "A stringent market" in pickles. "Tongues" maintained an easy tone. Lead "exhibits marked heaviness."—Michigan Tradesman.

The Companion invites its readers to contribute articles of interest to the profession and office, announcements of receptions, parties, entertainments and functions of all kinds, together with accounts of the same; personals, engagements and marriages.

LUCK OF ONE INVENTOR.

(Continued from September Number.)

Although one of a changing crowd of money-seeking inventors, his strong personality was long remembered in the offices of investors. From this bitter struggle with skeptics a more sensitive man would have retired with defeat, but he won. Not all at once, but he gained step by step, always deserving more than he achieved. When this hardest work was done and the manufacture of the machines was begun on a small scale, his arrangement was that Sholes should receive \$12,000 a year. Four years went by, it is said, and virtually all the inventor received was a frequent discouraging report. At least Densmore induced the weary inventor to accept \$12,000 for all that was due and for all his rights.

Densmore was kind in his own rough way to the inventor. He invited him to New York for pleasure, and kept him wretched by public quarrels with waiters, conductors, policemen, and everybody with whom they had anything to do. Densmore now lived in the East, and his income from the machine was said to be more than \$60,000 a year. Sholes, having had several hemorrhages, went to Colorado for two winters, and Densmore bore the expense of a winter in Florida. When Sholes completed an improvement to the machine Densmore demanded it as a right and got it. When Sholes' family and friends raged, the inventor defended the gift as a matter of conscience. He urged that to sell the improvement to others would injure the business of those who had acquired the original machine, and that they had a just claim on any improvements which Sholes might invent. While there were no written conditions, it was understood that Sholes would be taken care of.

At last the inventor retired permanently to his bed. Not that he was wholly unable to move about, but he had a theory. Every person, he said, was endowed with a certain amount of vital energy. If he dissipated it in physical exercise he shortened his life. He proposed to conserve his energy by living almost prone. His bed was a workshop. With the occasional aid of a machinist, he undertook the construction of a new kind of writing machine. He made several models, and one that pleased him. Densmore kept his eye on it, ridiculed it, then demanded it. He urged that but for him the first machine would never have been a success, and that he had done well by the inventor. He would make no written terms, but he would deal fairly if anything should come of it, which he could not believe.

As his sons had an interest in the new machine, Sholes refused. This enraged Densmore, who threatened a fight in the Patent Office and in the courts. His letters were savage and but for the ridicule, which touched the inventor's pride, Sholes might have eluded the vigilance of the sons and won.

Perhaps the life of this inventor is not exceptional. It is a commonplace that the inventor is often compelled to surrender all his rights for a comparatively small amount before the invention reaches the stage of manufacture. But it is certain that but for the strange influence of Densmore, but for the shrinking of the sensitive inventor from everything violent, Sholes might have retained a sufficient interest in his own creation to have become a millionaire.

The successful advertiser is a man who is satisfied with reasonable returns and knows how to reinvest them so that the results will be cumulative.