

other systems of shorthand which are equal, if not superior, to Standard Phonography," giving as examples, the systems of Munson, Gurney, Isaac Pitman, Benn Pitman, Marsh, Longley, Scovil, etc., which, I am inclined to believe, include the names of all the shorthand publishers that he has ever heard of or seen in print. In letter No. 2 it is intensely amusing to note the manner in which he attempts to support the statements contained in his first letter. To use his own words, he puts a few witnesses on the stand. His first being J. E. Munson, who says: I am author and publisher of Munson's shorthand; I use my own system and consider Standard Phonography an inferior one. Having thus proved, as he thinks, the superiority of Munson's (in)complete system, he likewise brings forward Mr. Gurney, who says he uses Gurney's shorthand. Mr. H. M. Parkhurst is also put on the stand to tell us something about Isaac Pitman's great system, but it appears from the testimony of this witness that he has found Pitman's system too slow for reporting purposes, and in consequence has been obliged to make improvements of his own. His next witness is Mr. E. F. Underhill. He tells us that although Pitman's system is a very good one, still he has found it necessary to make many improvements in order to follow speakers. Having called to the stand about fifteen other witnesses, whose testimony is similar to that of Munson, Gurney, Parkhurst and Underhill, "Old Phonographer" says that he is willing to leave the rest of the case to the intelligent public and the press to decide; that is to say, can Andrew J. Graham, or "T. W. B.," justly claim for Standard Phonography a superiority over the systems above mentioned, in face of the testimony of such learned authority.

Here, Mr. Editor, we have an "old phonographer," who, in attempting to attack a system of shorthand, which is indisputably the "Standard," succeeds only in making himself the laughing stock of the phonographic community. In making a reply to his letters, I have decided not to intrude by a lengthy discussion of the merits of the different systems which he has planked up against the "Standard," for the reason that I consider it is not necessary to do so in order to satisfy the public that there has been nothing claimed by Andrew J. Graham for Standard Phonography more than what must be allowed by all who compare that system with the inferior ones "Old Phono." champions,—

all of which it is plainly to be seen he knows little or nothing about, with the exception of Scovil's, a system which he has been preaching and teaching for the past ten years; with a knowledge of that system this spectacled Scovillite has been buzzing around our law courts and lawyers like a sort of a shorthand wasp.

I might here mention that if he were to undertake to earn his daily bread as a shorthand reporter, with nothing save Scovil's stenography at his finger ends, I do not see how on earth he would manage to keep the wolf from the door; but it so happens that, when called upon to report speakers for the press, he is always fortunate enough to secure the services of rapid longhand writers, whose notes appear in print next morning under the heading of "a phonographic report, etc."

I might also mention that "Old Phonographer," whose particular desire it is to be styled "Doctor" or "Professor," and who is always to be found out of practice, can only supply us by this stick-in-the-mud system of Scovil's at the rate of sixty words per minute. He does not pretend to read his notes when written at a greater speed.

Speaking of Standard Phonography, the inventor, Mr. Graham, simply tells us that it is immeasurably superior to all other systems, many of which, he says, are nothing more than poor imitations of the "Standard." These claims are completely substantiated by the following facts: Standard Phonography was the only one of the several systems of shorthand represented at the International Exhibition of 1876 that received from the Centennial Commission the honor of a medal and diploma. These were awarded to Mr. Graham after a most careful examination and comparison of Standard Phonography with the different systems (some of which have already appeared in the *Miscellany*), and also in consideration of the fact that Standard Phonography is the system that has been adopted in the principal colleges, where shorthand has been introduced, throughout Canada and the United States.

I consider that I have given sufficient proof to convince your readers of the merits of Andrew J. Graham's beautiful "Standard," and also of the absurdity of the feeble efforts that "Old Phonographer" has made to demolish it. I will now say, in conclusion, that it is to be hoped he will think twice before he again furnishes the