

anything so rare and racy as the papers read at the meeting of the New York State Stenographers Association last year, with the discussions thereupon. The book consists of 150 pages, and if it contained nothing but Mr. S. C. Rodgers' paper entitled, "The Stenographic Laws and Reporters of the United States and Territories," it would be worth three times the price at which we sell the volume—50 cents.

We have recently received from England two photographs of post cards containing respectively 14,250 and 11,650 words, in short-hand. They are real curiosities. The former took the first prize in the recent prize competition for miniature writing, offered through the medium of the *Phonograph*, and the other is written by the prize-winner. The former contains 10½ columns of the London *Times* leader type, in fact 8½ leading articles from that journal. The price is 25c. each, or the pair for 45c. We shall be in receipt of a stock in about a month, and shall be happy to receive orders for the same.

With a view of establishing harmony between the Phonographic editor of the *Printer's Miscellany*, and those individuals who are continually finding fault with the tone of his productions, he is considering the advisability of supplying with each number of the magazine a blank page, so that subscribers who hold opin-

ions on shorthand matters that do not exactly coincide with those set forth by the editor, may fill them up with Carter's Blue Black, to suit their own peculiar ideas. We can give brother Bell a suggestion for which we are not quite sure that he will thank us, but which would effectually remedy the difficulty. It is this: that the *Printer's Miscellany* should not so warmly espouse the cause of Graham, to the utter exclusion of all other systems. We have no such difficulty, as he, because the WRITER is "truly cosmopolitan."

We subjoin the transcript Mr. Odlin sends with his page of notes, remarking that in the second question the word "men" does not appear in the original, and consequently in the *fac-simile* notes.

Q. How many men wore the ball and chain? A.—I don't know.

Q. How many men did you ever see wearing it? A.—I don't think I saw more than three or four.

Q. Who were they? A.—Well, John Brown was one.

Q. Give us another. A.—I don't remember their names.

Q. Can't you remember a single one? A.—No, sir.

Q. Is anything the matter with your memory? A.—No, sir.

Q. Who asked you to testify in this case? A.—No one.

Q. Haven't you talked with anybody about it? A.—No, sir.

Q. Not a single individual? A.—No, sir.

## Phonographic Gossip.

### CANADA.

MR. T. W. GIBSON has been appointed private secretary to Hon. T. B. Pardee, Commissioner of Crown Lands.

THE last of the English pages of the *Hansard* have been printed. The French pages, with the exception of the index, have also left the printer's hands.

THE Secretary of the Barrie Mechanics' Institute writes us to the effect that shorthand classes are to be formed under the auspices of the Institute during the approaching winter.

MR. THOS. BENGOUGH, Official Reporter to the York County Courts, and conductor of the WRITER, was made an Honorary member of the New York Stenographers' Association at their meeting last month. He took pleasure in acknowledging the honor done to him, and through him, to the Canadian fraternity.

MR. F. W. WODELL has been "kidnapped" from us by Mr. John Cameron, of the London *Advertiser*, who has been on the look-out for a phonographer possessing the necessary qualifications for general reporting on a daily newspaper. He is happy in his choice, and is confident that our late assistant will be a valuable acquisition to the *Advertiser* staff. Notwithstanding that this change will complicate our machinery for a time, we are pleased at it, as we rejoice in the progress of all phono-

graphers, especially those whom we have the honor of bringing out from comparative obscurity and placing in positions of prominence.

THE editor of the *Canadian Spectator* thinks the manner in which examinations are carried on in the Montreal Courts now is a machine admirably adapted for wasting time and puzzling a witness. The words are taken down in long and slow hand, during the writing of which the examining lawyer has a chance to induce the witness to alter them occasionally. Then comes a long pause, and then the sentence is read over by the writer of the long and slow hand in a very pronounced French accent, which often puzzles witnesses and criminals not accustomed to the bewildering beauties of English prose set to French music. It is this inevitable slowness that induces the lack of decorum in the court. If the subordinates had work to do, or could watch work being done, so as to be interested, it would mend their manners.

THE legal fraternity in St. John, New Brunswick, are moving in the direction of a system of shorthand reporting in the Courts of that Province. A committee of legal gentlemen has been appointed, of whom Geo. G. Gilbert, Esq., is the moving spirit. The conductor of the WRITER had the pleasure of an interview with this gentleman a few days ago, and