

riority of Graham's over Pitman's system of Reporting, is to contrast the amount of matter contained in a line of the one, written the same size, with that which a line of the other system contains. The lines of Benn Pitman's Reporter's Companion are the same length as those of Graham's, and the characters are somewhat larger, there is the same number of lines in a page. The following is the contents of a line of the Reporting Exercises, selected at random, near the back of the Companion. —

["he cannot be too well educated. He must also possess the valuable qualification of being able to"]

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At length we have the long promised new edition of this work before us, written and published by Benn Pitman, Cincinnati, O. And it is a new edition, truly, for it is totally different, in contents, arrangement, and manner of execution, from the preceding one. The first fourteen pages are occupied with an explanation and illustration of the principles of Phonography, and various expedients to facilitate speed as well as legibility in reporting; in which department, several of the improvements of Graham's Hand Book are incorporated. Then follow seven teen pages of easy progressive exercises in Phonography, designed for copying by the student until they can all be written with perfect ease. Next come sixteen pages of Reporting Logograms, or words which can be expressed in Phonography by a single character, without the use of vowels, and without lifting the pen. The fifty-six next pages contain a vocabulary, arranged according to the old alphabet, one page having the words in common print, and the opposite one containing the words in Phonographic style, just as they should be written. By reference to this vocabulary, the Phonographer can, in a moment, ascertain the correct method of writing, in the Reporting Style, almost any word with which he may meet. Sixty pages of new Reporting Exercises completes the book. Each page of the whole work, throughout, is accompanied by a key in the common print. So different in this edition of the Reporter's Companion from the old one, [which was written nearly ten years ago] that it will undoubtedly command a large sale among old Phonographers who have the previous edition. The progressive exercises which it contains are all new, and in them are incorporated all the improvements of the past ten years. Those who have Graham's series of works, should have the Reporter's Companion on account of these progressive exercises, and all phonog-

raphers, no matter who they may be, should possess a copy on account of the many new and interesting exercises which it contains, not to mention the valuable Vocabulary.

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Reporting in Congress.

Phonographers, who intend to become reporters, frequently write to us to ask how long we think it will take to qualify themselves to fill "first class situations,"—as though it were possible for us to know. All such will do well to read the following: It is a lively sketch by a friend of ours, of what some reporters have to encounter. That anything like a presentable report of such proceedings is daily made, shows what clever, collected fellows the reporters in Congress must be. These are lively times for good reporters, abundance of work and excellent pay.

"Accounts, in general and in detail, of the House of Representatives have been published, but they have not given satisfactory ideas of its turbulence and lack of dignity; nor can any pen present a vivid picture of it to the mind's eye. In theory, it is a grave and dignified body, to whose hands, in reality, are committed the fortunes and destinies of over thirty one millions of people.— You would say that two hundred and thirty-three "gentlemen" selected to represent such a mighty mass of intelligence, would be careful to conserve their dignity, and anxious to stand acquit before their country of all the duties of deportment and action, which devolve upon them. Generally, a member is selected by his fellow men for his real or supposed superior qualifications of mind and character, and the supposition of his constituency is, that he bears himself away from home, at least as decently as he does among his neighbors. But alas, the spectator of the people's Representatives in Congress assembled, is rudely brought to a realizing sense of the vast difference between promise and fulfillment; the immeasurable distance between theory and practice. Looking down upon the House, when exciting questions are pending, one would be sworn that the constitutional duty of a member is to swagger and bully, or devote himself to the chief end of modern legislators—seeking an unfair advantage of a political opponent. The man who can accomplish this often, is laureled a rising "statesman" and able politician; so corrupted has become our latter day vocabulary.— But let us look down upon ordinary scenes. The Speaker, with gravity and dignity, occupies the Chair, with gavel constantly in hand, impressing you with convictions you had once upon a time, when the school-

masters were accustomed to whirl the ferule at your head. If you didn't know better, you would suppose, from the turmoil and unrest of the chattering and disorderly throng, he surveys, that he was watching an opportunity to hurl his gavel at some unlucky "mog" which appeared to be open widest, and emitting most sound. While he sits there to "preserve order," you are struck with the singular misuse of terms, and wonder if this is "preserving order," what in the name of propriety preventing disorder would amount to? Down below him, on another terrace, a half dozen clerks are busy as time, keeping "minutes" of the proceedings, and you are wondering again how human faculties can struggle up through the din of two hundred tongues, or more—rattling in loud conversation—and catch the thread of mysterious weaving in that intolerable confusion, which we call legislation. None on earth but practiced clerks and reporters can do it. Now the "Gentleman from Somewhere," shouts like a Stentor, "Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker!" Down in front of him is the "Gentleman from Anywhere," with shrill voice, singing out in sharp alto, "Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker!" Another "Gentleman from Nowhere," sonorously bellows, "Mr. Speaker! Mister Speaker!" A half a dozen other "gentlemen from miscellaneous places," are popping up at the same time, each of them ranging the gamut with varying intonation, but all of them in spasms—"Mr. Speaker, Mr Speaker!" while in every direction "gentlemen" are chatting and laughing audibly, and other gentlemen are clapping their hands, and a score of pages are racing through the aisles, attending their wants. The Speaker recognizes the "gentleman from Somewhere," and the "gentleman from Somewhere" says "Mr. Speaker, I rise for the purpose"—and a half dozen more "gentlemen from miscellaneous places" pop up and interrupt him, with—"Mr Speaker, I hope the gentleman from Somewhere will give way"—"Mr. Speaker, I wish to remind the gentleman from Somewhere, with his permission"—"Mr. Speaker, I wish to call attention to the fact"—"Mr. Speaker! I believe, according to the rules, the special order"—"Mr. Speaker, I call the gentleman to Louisiana from order"—and the Speaker poises his gavel—you're sure he'll hit somebody—brings it down "thwack, thwack."—"Does the gentleman from Somewhere yield the floor to the gentleman from Nowhere?"—"The "gentleman from Somewhere" demurs slightly, is subdued by courtesy, yields the floor to the "gentleman from Nowhere," that the "gentleman from Nowhere" may make an explanation, and the "gentleman from Nowhere" makes a speech of a half hour, to explain a little motion he "believes to be in order." So it is, all day long, a standing experience, the Speaker hammering at his