

UNITED STATES.

Joseph L. Blundell, an expert New York court reporter, died a short time ago at the age of sixty years.

Connecticut paid \$3,900, or \$300 each, to thirteen reporters for reporting the proceedings of her Legislature in 1879.

The first annual dinner of the California Association of shorthand reporters was held in San Francisco a short time ago.

Charles A. Sumner, the San Francisco reporter, has taken down in shorthand, during the last four years, over seven millions of words.

Prof. T. J. Ellinwood, the reporter for the Brooklyn Y. M. C. A., teaches Phonography in the Summer Institute at Martha's Vineyard.

Mr. W. S. Gomph, one of the leading phonographers of Springfield, Mass., is connected with the *New England Homestead*, published in that city.

A Bill for the appointment of stenographers for Texas will be presented at the next session of the State Legislature. It will be championed by leading attorneys.

A correspondent writing from Chicago says:—"You might warn Canadian shorthand men not to make for Chicago to look for work in that line, for it is getting over done."

W. George Waring, jr., formerly of Tyrone, Pa., has been appointed an official stenographer at Denver, Col. Mr. W. is an Isaac Pitman writer, and was at one time editor of the *Phonetic Magazine*.

The Western Union Telegraph Co., during the Republican Convention which met at Chicago, sent away daily 196,251 words by special newspaper reports, and 158,714 words by the Associated Press.

FOREIGN.

Shorthand has been adapted to the Welsh language.

Isaac Pitman's *Phonetic Journal* has a weekly circulation of over 12,000 copies.

Isaac Pitman's system of shorthand is used in Cyprus, chiefly among the English residents.

The stenographer's fees in the Tichborne case, on the side of the prosecution, amounted to \$20,000.

Stenography has been introduced in the curriculum of the Lycee Louis le Grand, Paris. This is its first introduction into French public schools.

The Derby, Eng., *Daily Telegraph* recently published, an hour after its utterance, a seven column report of a speech delivered in that city by Sir William Harcourt.

Prof. Zeibig says that Gibbon was the first to observe that a speaker who speaks the English language quite fluently would utter 120 words per minute. Of Italian orators, De Foresta spoke sixty, and others ranged from 90 to 200.

L'Unité Sténographique is the title of a French shorthand publication, and is the special organ of the Prevost Delaunay method, which is founded on Taylor's English system. The conductors are at present attacking the opposition system—Duploye's.

Three German shorthand writers, Drs. Zeibig, Weiss and Rotzsch, report that during the recent session of the Reichstag, especially during the debates on the tariff and the budget, speeches were spoken at the rate of two hundred words a minute. Such is the length of many German words that two hundred of them in an ordinary oration are as long as three hundred English words.

Editorial Notes.

A number of interesting "questions and answers" will appear in the next number.

We were in error in saying that the new *Hanward* staff were appointed by the Government. They were appointed by the House.

We beg to thank Mr. William Buckingham, of Stratford, for the originals of two letters written by Isaac Pitman and Thos. Allan Reed thirty years ago. That of Mr. Pitman will be found lithographed on another page.

Mr. Ed. I. Connolly, of the Taunton *Gazette*, Somerset Co., Eng., has kindly volunteered his services as English correspondent to the WRITER. Our readers may look for items of interest from his pen in future numbers.

The WRITER has been received with marked favor by the leading professional phonographers of England, the United States and Canada. Its cosmopolitan character has been recognized, and it has already been accepted as "the organ

of the profession" in the sense of being the medium through which any member of the profession, be he ever so humble, no matter to what "school" he belongs, may express his views. As we predicted in our introductory article, we find the utmost harmony prevailing among the contributors, representing the many systems of phonography and stenography. This is as it should be, though it is not, we regret to say, as it has been—if we may judge from expressions made in private letters and press notices. The WRITER marks the commencement of a new era of united, fraternal progress, the strange device upon the banner being that euphonious word "Cosmopolitan." Couldn't some of our poetically-inclined readers give us a steno-phonographic poem after the style of Longfellow's "Excelsior," playing on the word "Cosmopolitan"? We promise a prize for the best poem on this world-wide topic—provided, of course, that it be superior to Longfellow's.