

## WHAT IS SAID OF THE "WAWA" SHORTHAND

"The 'Wawa' is really a full-fledged newspaper, and it first saw the light of day in the month of May, 1891. 'Wawa' is a Chinook word, meaning 'talk, speak or echo.' Hence the title signifies 'Kamloops Echoes.' Kamloops, the name of the town in which it was inaugurated, is a Shushwap word, meaning 'the forking together of rivers'—in this instance, the north and south forks of the Thompson River.

"The 'Kamloops Wawa' was first printed on the mimeograph, at 100 copies, from May, 1891, till March, 1892. From that date, till December of the same year, 200 copies were issued, four pages weekly. From January, 1893, it was issued at sixteen pages monthly, with covers, instead of four pages weekly. In March following the number of copies issued had to be increased to 500 in June to 1,000, and later on to 1,200. Since January, 1895, it has issued 2,000 monthly, and the number will soon be increased to 3,000, and more.

"The printing of the paper is marvellous. At first the news was auto-graphed, then duplicated on the mimeograph by Indian women. The first volumes of this wonderful little paper have been bound, and copies sent to the Smithsonian Institution to the British Museum, to the Astor Library, to the Library of the University of the State of New York, etc.

"There still remain in stock a few copies of the original volumes. These, in a few years, as well as in the present, may be considered valuable curiosities.

"Now the whole process of mimeographing has been abandoned, and the paper is produced by photo engraving, at 2,000 copies per month. It costs sixty dollars a month to issue the paper as it now is, which sum it is rather difficult to find readily among the Indians alone. The object in issuing these sample copies is to obtain from the outside resources enough to let subscribers have their paper at a nominal figure."

[Most of the above items were published in the "Chicago Sunday Herald," of November 25th, 1894, from the pen of Miss Matabelle Justice.]

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Besides Chinook and Indian phonography, this paper contains, every month, three or four pages of English reading on topics connected with the Chinook,—its origin, etc.; concerning the system of shorthand employed; its progress among the natives, as well as to be of continual interest to all its readers.

One of our distinguished Prelates in the United States, after referring to the complications of a Shorthand Phrase Book, writes: "How different with your system! It so plain and simple. I am extremely thankful to you for bringing this system of shorthand to my observation. It was a revelation to me. The more I see of it, the more I like it."

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Mr. Edward Seigneur, born in Paris, France, June 16, 1879, has always been victorious in all contests for speed in reporting into which he has entered. He writes easily 150 words a minute, in full style, using dots and accents. The system he uses is exactly the same as in the Wawa.

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On the cover of the Wawa Shorthand Instructor and Exercise book is found a table "Shorthand Versus Longhand," which proves to evidence that this style of shorthand, without any abbreviations, is five times shorter than common longhand, so that if you can write 30 words a minute in longhand, you will easily write 150 words a minute in this style of shorthand, when you have acquired the same natural ease in writing shorthand as you now have in longhand.

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We have Indians in British Columbia who can write 45 to 50 Chinook words a minute, which is equal to double the number of English words, seeing that in Chinook the words are long and cut into syllables.

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A prayer book for our Indians is now under preparation. It will contain the Prayers, Hymns and Catechism in use among our Indians in 10 different languages, about 60 pages of shorthand, equal to 120 pages of typography each. Viz: English, Chinook, Shushwap, Okanagan, Thompson, Llocoet, Stalo, Skwanish, Sheshel and Slayamen, besides sixty pages of Latin chant and music, each language separate: 30 cents.

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A few Libraries and Private persons have already secured complete sets of the "Wawa." A few are still on hand and will be delivered for the following prices:

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|------------------------------------|--------|
| Kamloops Wawa, 1891.....           | \$1 50 |
| " " 1893.....                      | 1 50   |
| " " 1894.....                      | 1 50   |
| " " 1895.....                      | 1 00   |
| " " 1896.....                      | 1 00   |
| Indian Prayer Book, mimeographed   | 1 50   |
| Chinook Vocabulary, " "            | 25     |
| The Kamloops Phonographer, 1892... | 1 00   |