

alone, calculating future increase at the same ratio, there is opportunity for a large proportion of the present students who are ready for work. But the legal fraternity is simply one of many. Each of the numerous wholesale houses, counting-houses and insurance companies requires phonographic help. It must be remembered, however, that the advantages of shorthand, in many of these establishments, are as yet unknown, and an important part of our duty will be to advocate the claims of stenographers in these various departments.

ONE of the earliest applications for a position was made by a young man in New York City who, though able to write one hundred words per minute, modestly suggests that he could not "let" as a shorthand reporter, because he "cannot take down *verbatim*." He desires a position on some paper as a longhand reporter, and asks whether we contemplate providing such situations. In reply to this we desire to state that our Bureau, though mainly so designed, is not exclusively intended for shorthand writers; and we anticipate applications for journalistic help, which need not necessarily imply a knowledge of shorthand. We may remark that we consider the young man to whom we have alluded is rather too modest for one who has had experience in reporting as he has, and who can write one hundred words per minute. He would soon work up speed on a newspaper, and has the peculiar advantage of being a printer. Every printer should understand shorthand.

IN a lengthened and varied intercourse with shorthand writers of all grades, we have found the number of those who are addicted to the use

of intoxicating liquors to be extremely small; but we call to mind the case of an expert writer, who, although enjoying the confidence of Judges and the members of the Bar, and possessing the prospect of a successful career both socially and financially, has been reduced to intercourse with pettifoggers, because he gave way to his inclination to inebriation. The advocates of tipping may argue as they please in regard to the stimulation which comes from imbibation, but we beg mildly to suggest that we are not at all desirous of risking our reputation in connection with this Bureau by placing in responsible positions shorthand men who are at all inclined to love of liquor. One case of failure in this direction would bring discredit upon the whole craft.

MANY letters have already found their way to the Bureau. One of our correspondents says:— "In your advertisement you talk of "a nominal commission on the annual salary." Does that keep on forever? Do you find situations in the U. S. as well as in "those few acres of snow"? To which we reply: (1) The nominal commission (five per cent.) on the annual salary is to be paid on receipt of the first month's salary. No further payment will be demanded. (2) We expect to place a goodly number of stenographers in lucrative positions on the other side of the lines.

THE employers of Shorthand Clerks who have had no experience with that kind of help, are impatient of any seeming delay or lack of energy or capacity on the part of the clerk to catch the meaning of sentences dictated. We mention this now, so that phonographers who have such positions in view may sharpen their wits as well as their pencil points.

Editorial Notes.

WE take pleasure this month in presenting to our readers the portrait of Mr. E. L. Knapp, of Dowagiac, Mich. We gave a specimen of this gentleman's reporting notes in our June number.

OUR supply of WRITERS for May and June is completely exhausted, and we cannot, therefore, supply new subscribers with the back copies. Judging by the number of applications for them we may some day require to publish a reprint.

ARRIVED—another "Cosmopolitan" poem. This one comes from Illinois, and the writer is a lady. It bids fair to win the prize. We shall be happy, when a few more are received, to assume the task of deciding on their respective merits, and awarding the promised prize.

WILL our friends who have business correspondence for the WRITER please send their communications in longhand? We find it difficult to secure in one individual all the qualifications necessary for deciphering the various and peculiar styles of Phonographic aligraphy.

THE *Printer's Miscellany* has a conundrum:—"What is the difference between shorthand notes and bank notes?—The former are usually taken with a pencil, while the latter are always taken with thanks." If it were not that the number of the *Miscellany* containing this conundrum is dated July, we should have concluded that the idea was a plagiarism of one of the cartoons in the last number of the WRITER.

Two correspondents who write Graham's system think the specimen given in the August WRITER under the heading "The Various Systems" has not the slightest resemblance to Standard Phonography. The point is well taken, for the specimen was marked "Graham" through a misconception. Mr. Gurnett is in no way responsible for the shorthand, though his name appears to it, - he having written only the original manuscript from which it was transcribed.

FOR rich, varied, valuable, vivacious, voracious reading, such as every voracious shorthand writer is ready to digest, we know of hardly