

PHONETIC PIONEER.

Book postage, in Canada, is about one half-penny per ounce, and in the U. S., about the same, or a little higher perhaps. Differing from letter postage, no amount of money can pay the postage on both sides of the lines at once. Canadians are often deceived by the announcements of U. S. booksellers, who advertise to send books, etc., to any place in the U. S. or British Provinces post paid, or postage free. Perhaps some of these publishers are not aware of the fact that they cannot send a book to a British Province free of postage. They cannot do otherwise than pay the U. S. Postage, but the person in Canada to whom the book is sent, must pay the full Canadian postage of a half-penny per ounce. This, on books which are sold for one dollar, will amount to from twelve to twenty-five cents, according to size.

A Canadian Edition of the American Manual of Phonography.

Almost ever since we commenced to work in the promulgation of the Phonetic Reform in Canada, we have been subjected to delays and disappointments, for weeks at a time, sometimes, owing to the inability of Mr. Pitman to supply the Manual of Phonography. The manner in which Benn Pitman's Manual is got up—that of being partly engraved and partly typic, and interleaved—renders its production a tedious and expensive process. It is an excellent work, but the trouble and uncertainty connected with getting a supply of it, rendered it necessary for us to make some other arrangement for supplying the demands upon us for instruction books. Between Benn Pitman's and Messrs Longley Bros' Manual there never has, in our estimation, been much to choose. The Phonography taught is the same precisely.—The manner of teaching it is different. As to which is the easier of the two for a novice to acquire the art from, we are unable to say. An elder brother of the writer, however, holds that Longley's is a vast deal easier to understand than Pitman's—he having *tried* both and succeeded best with Longley's. There are two special points of difference between the two works. In Longley's, the phonographic characters are printed from wood engravings, and are large and plain, so as not to be easily mistaken, one for another, by the dullest student;—in Pitman's they are printed from stone engraving—a slow and expensive process—and though the exercises are copious, the characters are too small to make their study, at night, a very pleasant operation.—

Another difference is that Longley's work gives the student a knowledge of Phonotypy as well as Phonography,—although there is also an edition which does not explain Phonotypy. This is a valuable feature, considered in relation to the whole Phonetic Reform.

Owing to the above circumstances, we have made arrangements whereby we are enabled to issue a CANADIAN EDITION of the American Manual of Phonography, which will be published at this office; and hereafter, our friends may calculate upon finding us, at all times abundantly able to fill their orders, by return of mail or express, for almost any quantity of either Manuals or Copy-books—both published in Canada. We will also still continue to keep a stock of Benn Pitman's Manuals, when we can get them. Both Pitman's Manual and the American Manual will be sold at the same price, namely 75 cents per single copy and sent postage free.—By the quantity, the same as advertised in December number: \$8 per dozen, post paid, or \$7, sent by express unpaid.

Our Cincinnati Phonetic publishing friends seem to have got into a little squabble among themselves, concerning what we consider a very small matter. Longley Brothers, publishers of the *Type of the Times*, saw fit to amalgamate their paper with the *People's Paper*, a journal devoted to the advocacy of Land Reform, in order to render the publication of both papers less expensive to their respective proprietors. Thereupon Mr. Pitman and Mr. Prosser, the former particularly, denounced the Messrs Longley, because they have mixed up phonetics with another subject in their paper, and predict their speedy failure. We don't see that Mr. Pitman need trouble himself about it, for there's another very excellent phonetic periodical—the *Phonetic Journal*—which those phoneticians who choose to discontinue the *Type of the Times* can take. A good many phoneticians, we have no doubt, are in favor of land reform, and such will make no objection to having a paper partly occupied with that subject, while the introduction of a phonetic paper into the homes of the 3000 subscribers of the *People's Paper* may gain for the phonetic cause, thousands of new friends in a very short space of time.

THE CANADIAN PHONETIC PIONEER

Is published monthly, at the *Vindicator* office, Oshawa, Ontario Co., O. W.

TERMS:—For a single copy, 25 cents per annum. Three copies, 50 cents per annum. Seven copies, \$1.00 per annum. Sixteen copies, \$2.00 per annum.

All communications to be addressed, (post-paid,) to

WILLIAM H. ORR,
OSHAWA, C. W.

Spoken and Written Language.

What may have been the origin of language, it is not the object of this treatise to discuss. Whatever might be the speculative ideas of the author on that subject, they would not add to the positive knowledge of the reader, and would therefore be unprofitable. Whether human language originated from a few monosyllables, as *HA HE HI HO*, as Lord Monboddo contends in his work on "the Origin and Progress of Language;" whether it was developed, as Dr. Murray supposed, from nine monosyllables, *AO, BAO, DWAO, GWAO, LAO, MAO, NAO, RAO, SWAO*, or whether, as Maupertuis thinks, "language was formed by a session of learned societies assembled for that purpose"—is a question of no practical moment. It is sufficient to know that spoken language exists, and is intended for a representative of ideas.

To the reflecting mind it must ever be pleasing to contemplate the wonderful process by which we reproduce, to a greater or less degree, in the minds of others, the mental sensations we ourselves experience. To make by no means an exhaustive enumeration of the links in the mysterious chain which connects soul to soul in feeling and thought,—we have a certain effect produced upon us by an oration, say, which oration is divisible into sentences, which can be divided into clauses, which are composed of words, which are constituted of syllables, which consists of indivisible parts of speech. These sounds we get by hearing, which is experiencing certain sensations indirectly produced by vibrations of the different parts of the ear; which vibrations were produced by certain vibrations of the air; which vibrations were caused by the ejection of the air from the lungs through the variously modified passages of the mouth and nose. We have not yet arrived at the fountain of power which, through various instrumentalities, has set in motion the organs of speech, and sustained them in numerous simultaneous, and rapid operations while producing the words which have impressed us. Not only have the words been delivered, but they have been modified by tone, accent, emphasis, modulation etc., which concur with the words in effecting the desired result. Words are the viewless bearers of arbitrary meanings, and are variously grouped to suit the purposes of the speaker, and are clothed with the curious intertexture of tone, accent, emphasis, modulation, etc., furnished by each speaker as he sends them on their mission to his auditor.

Then, how wonderful is written or printed language! Here we have, or should have, certain signs as the representatives of the elementary sounds of speech; which signs being placed in the order of the sounds they represent, become the representatives of words, and sustain to the light and sight the same relations the words they indicate bear to the *HA* and *HE*. Observe the circuit which a thought ordinarily travels in passing from the mind of an author to that of his reader. It passes from the brain of the author through his nerves, muscles, fingers, pen, and ink; to paper; then mounting through the eyes of the compositor, to his mind; it comes back through his brain, nerves, mus-