

Reverting to the paragraph on page 87 (October) in reference to Mr. Crawford's reporting feat, we secured a copy of the evidence in the "Waubuno" case, and searched for the section of the transcript to which Mr. Crawford had given us reference according to date. Failing to find it, we spoke to Mr. C., and then discovered that we had misunderstood him, and that he referred to the second trial of the case, the transcript of which he commenced to make but did not complete as it was not called for. We have therefore had no opportunity of verifying the statement as we proposed doing, and write this in justice to Mr. C., who might otherwise be placed in a false position.

We had the pleasure recently of visiting the Deaf and Dumb Institute in Belleville, and hearing deaf mutes *talk* so distinctly that we could understand every word uttered. Prof. J. H. Brown, who has special charge of the sixty pupils who, though quite deaf, are learning to converse quite intelligently, is an enthusiastic phonographer and phonetician. There is no better authority than he on the subject of phonetics, for not only is he a thorough master of Prof. Melville Bell's "Visible Speech," but he has been forced, during the two years of his residence in Belleville, to thoroughly analyze all the sounds in the language. He has been training unfortunate boys and girls *who never heard a sound*, but who, by simply observing and imitating the movements of the tutor's vocal organs, have been taught to pronounce aloud any word. The pupils do not know the sounds they make when speaking, and hence cannot control their pitch and volume. The "Visible Speech" can be written, and by a method of mental training for the development of the mind, the pupils can be taught to express their own thoughts in words. Prof. Bell has conferred an inestimable boon upon the deaf and dumb in giving them his "Visible Speech." Prof. Brown is a worthy exponent of the system. He is introduced to our readers in this number as the writer of the article on "W" and "Y," which will well repay perusal.

Mr. Walter L. Oliphant, now shorthand writer in the Hanover National Bank, has furnished a notable example of the success which comes in natural course as the result of diligent study of Phonography and faithfulness in the discharge of duty. To him we are indebted for encouragement and inspiration while struggling with phonographic outlines. We were then, in 1870,

working together as printers in the *Globe* office, which friend Oliphant left soon afterwards to take a position as shorthand writer to Mr. Wallis, Mechanical Superintendent of the G.T.R., at Montreal. Here, by practice, he became not only proficient in shorthand, but thoroughly familiar with all the details of the department, so that his status was in fact that of Deputy Superintendent. By energetic and conscientious work, he secured increases in salary until his income was handsome, and his position honorable and comfortable. One day the manager of the Hanover Bank saw a letter written in Mr. O's bold, round, "civil service" hand, and at once determined to capture him. An offer of \$1,800 a year *as a start*, took our friend somewhat by surprise, and his modesty well-nigh overcame him; but the manager was determined, and the offer was accepted. Mr. Oliphant is now married and settled down in his new quarters, and is happy in the confidence of his employers. Though he signs cheques involving immense amounts, he has not been asked to furnish bonds of any kind. May his example stimulate the young men who are starting out in life.

AMERICAN.

Canadians may recognize a familiar name in that of Mr. Reid McMonagh, who is at present stenographer for Hon. L. W. Russell, Attorney-General of New York, at Albany. Mr. McMonagh is originally a Canadian, and has been stationed at Canton-street, Lawrence City, N. Y., for the past five years, in the pursuit of his profession. We congratulate him on his success, and most sincerely wish him a continuance of it.

An honored subscriber to the WRITER, Mr. J. Homer Bliss, of the *Advocate*, Attleboro', Mass., has compiled an 800-page book giving a genealogical record of the Bliss family back to 1550. The book occupied over twenty years in compilation, required more than 10,000 letters, and treats of 2,225 Bliss families in America. Among these descendants we notice the names of Ralph Waldo Emerson and the late Philip P. Bliss, the evangelist, besides senators, clergymen and professional gentlemen. Mr. Bliss thinks the command to "honor our fathers and mothers" can be best done by preserving and perpetuating their most honorable records—hence this Herculean task, the expenses of which were over \$5,000.

FOREIGN.

M. Gensoul, an ingenious Frenchman, has invented a stenographic press. The