

senting the sounds of the language by distinct characters, having, as far as possible, a certain correspondence with the sounds they represent, but natural, also, in the order of their writing.

It will be noticed that the method followed differs radically from that of Pitman and his followers, in representing the vowel sounds by lines instead of dots and dashes. The vowel is made the basis of the written syllable, as it certainly is of the spoken syllable, and the consonants are so formed that they may be joined to either end of the vowel, without raising the pen from the paper, enabling the writer to represent each sound in regular succession as it is spoken. By this means all shifting movements in writing a word are dispensed with, and the double process of writing, one of the worst features of Pitman's method, is avoided. No nominal consonant is needed; and no awkward shaded letters, indeed no shading whatever is required. This in itself is a very important point. If the writer chooses in reporting, shading may be introduced to distinguish between the added *t* and *d*; but this will seldom be necessary. It will be noticed that no word or syllabic signs are used in the corresponding or common style of the writing; nor is there any necessity for their use, the writing being generally shorter, without them, than that of other systems, even when shortened by their use to the extent of at least twenty-five per cent.

In the reporting style arbitrary signs are, for the sake of simplicity, but rarely used; although it is admitted that for the special purposes of the reporter there is no objection to their being used if the writer pleases to do so, as was remarked of the shading.

No dots being used in common, the usual punctuation marks are all that is necessary, another not unimportant advantage over those methods which represent the period by a cross that requires three movements in making it. In