

presented by three of the leading chieftains in their own language, which was interpreted to the Governor by Father Fouquet, who also was the interpreter of His Excellency's reply. A hospitable repast furnished by His Excellency happily terminated the festival."

THE WAWA SHORTHAND.

We dare not make any hints on abbreviations yet. We have proved in a recent issue that the "Wawa" Shorthand in full style, just as it is used in the pages of the "Wawa," is five times shorter than the common longhand writing. We have proved then that it is capable, as it is, of answering one's requirements without any further abbreviations. We maintain that if students in shorthand would spend as much time in practising shorthand, full style, as is given to memorize and practice abbreviations, they would acquire sufficient speed in writing shorthand, full style, to answer every purpose. They would secure, besides, a more perfect legibility, and save themselves a great deal of time that has to be employed in transcribing notes taken in a reporter's style, which being often illegible to its own author, is all the more so to everybody else.

The inventor of this system, Rev. E. Duploye, never thought much of abbreviations, and always maintained that his shorthand in full is quite capable of keeping up to speech, only everybody does not acquire that sufficient speed, either for want of natural qualification, or for want of sufficient

practice. Hands broken for years into the turns of the old cursive writing will not acquire a natural speed in shorthand as quickly as the hands of children who are trained to the swift art from infancy.

We have now a very striking illustration of this in the person of Mr. Edouard Seigneur, who writes in full style, with dots and accents, and who comes out first in all contests for speed to which he presents himself. A very remarkable feat of his was at Monthéry, May 24th, last. "The most interesting part of the examinations of competitors for the palms in shorthand was that of young Edouard Seigneur, under 16 years old, who wrote 152 words a minute without any abbreviations, and then read over what he had written, as easily as if it were an article of a newspaper, without any fault or omission. The jury was unanimous in granting him the first reward of the whole exhibition, a gold medal, which had been well earned, by ten years of labor and study. Not that there were a scarcity of meritorious work worthy of recompense. There were, in contrary, many of them, and they have all been properly rewarded."—*From the "Abeille of Monthéry, May 31st, 1896."*

The same exhibition of shorthand works of all kinds has favored the "Kamloops Wawa" with four rewards of merit: A medal "en vermeil" for the Editor; a silver palm for the first collaborator; and two bronze medals for the two persons most deserving it by their success in shorthand in British Columbia.