



CONDUCTED BY T. WILLIAM BELL.

MR. GAWTRESS, when speaking of the benefits of shorthand, truly says, that a practical acquaintance with this art is highly favorable to the mind—invigorating all its faculties and drawing forth all its resources. The close attention requisite in following the voice of a speaker, induces habits of patience, perseverance, and watchfulness, which will gradually extend themselves to other pursuits and avocations, and at length inure the writer to exercise them on every occasion in life. When writing in public, it will also be absolutely necessary to distinguish and adhere to the train of thought which runs through the discourse, and to observe the modes of its connection. This will naturally have a tendency to endue the mind with quickness of apprehension, and will impart a habitual readiness and distinctness of perception as well as a methodical simplicity of arrangement which cannot fail to conduce greatly to mental superiority. The judgment will be strengthened, and the taste refined; and the practitioner will, by degrees, become habituated to seize the original and leading parts of a discourse or harangue, and to reject whatever is common-place, trivial, or uninteresting.

WE are pleased to learn that (In-) "Complete Phonography" is no longer to be "bolstered up by its author with false and unjust claims." In the June number of *Munson's Phonographic News* the editor acknowledges his system to be neither "complete" nor "practical," owing to the fact that it is not one by which all words can be fastened upon paper. A letter of Mr. DeBuy's, which appears in phonographic characters, could not be written without borrowing fourteen words from longhand. These words, Mr. Munson says, are written in longhand for the purpose of helping his readers along.

THE *Student's Journal*, with its usual overflow of valuable and highly interesting matter, is before us. The following are some of the articles contained in the August number: "The Type-writer," "California Reporters," "Notes on the Reporter's List," "Animal Magnetism (with remarks by the editor)," "Pleasures of the Palate," and "Errors in Transcription." It also presents a *fac-simile* of Thomas I. Daniel's letter to Arthur R. Bailey, together with a stereographed table showing, that out of the seven errors made in transcribing, six were on *Old-Style* outlines, whilst there were twenty-three other instances of "Standard" phonographic peculiarities in this letter, which were translated without a single error.

WE have received from Mr. Samuel T. Henderson a letter in which he expresses a desire to compare his speed of writing with that of any other writer of shorthand in Canada or the United States (Standard phonographers barred). Mr. H. adds that the stakes are not to be more than \$50 a side—which sum is to be deposited in the office of the *Printer's Miscellany*. He further states that it would be desirable to have the trial of speed take place within thirty days. He intimates that his object in sending the challenge is principally for the purpose of puncturing "that small brood of pin-feathered" Pullenographers who are continually "cackling" in and around Brown's henery.

Brown's paper for August tells its small circle of readers that Benn Pitman's system is the standard in America, and that it is used by the Parliamentary reporters in Canada. In the editorial columns of the same paper we find the following, under the heading of "Parliamentary Reporting in Canada:" "Last session there were numerous complaints in the House of Commons of the inaccuracy of the reports. . . . It would be difficult to conceive a worse system than the one which produces such results. . . . The work is done by cheap and inefficient men in order that the contractor may profit as largely as possible."

Mr. Andrew J. Graham has in press an order of 7000 copies of the "Handbook and Synopsis." As it is not more than three months since the last edition was published, it is evident that this valuable work is daily gaining ground in the phonographic world.